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APRIL 1, 2016

Construction set to resume on N. Charles

By **BOB BUILDER**
For *The News-Letter*

The Charles Street construction that was completed in 2015 will resume work in May, Chuck Rhodes, the chief civil engineer on the project, announced Wednesday.

The construction will add more art sculptures, benches and trees along the length of the road from 31st Street to University Parkway. To accommodate the new structures, the segment of N. Charles will be converted to a one-way.

"We have identified a dire error in making the street two ways, and we need to revert it to its former glory," Rhodes said, standing on a soap box at the center of N. Charles and 34th Streets with a megaphone. "With the extra space, we will be able to increase the aesthetic appeal of this prime roadway."

N. Charles Street, first laid out in 1730, was pre-

viously one-way northbound, with St. Paul Street traffic going south, but both became two-way streets in the past 15 years. A \$28 million N. Charles reconstruction project began in the spring of 2012 and supposedly concluded its major phases last fall, with only landscaping left to finish.

Rhodes said that the University is well-aware of the blowback it may receive from students who live near the construction.

"It means a bit more loud noise to tolerate, but Hopkins students are tough little nerds — they can take it. They've done it three times; They can do it again," he said. "I swear that when you see those benches, it will all be worth it."

Rhodes declined to comment on the proposed duration of the new phase of construction.

Many students are worried about how the construction will affect

SEE N. CHARLES, PAGE A2



MYSPACE

Facult and staff parties like the one shown above will have to be registered due to a new amendment to current alcohol and party policy.

Faculty, staff required to register parties

By **FAIRY NUFF**
Staff Writer

All faculty and staff will now be required to register their off-campus parties, the University announced Tuesday. The new measure is an amendment to the current policies on alcohol

and parties that apply to the student body.

According to an email sent by University President Ronald J. Daniels to the University community on Tuesday, this provision has been in the works for several months.

"After releasing the updated alcohol and party policy in the fall that required students to register their off-campus parties, we realized that enforcement would be a difficult issue," Daniels wrote. "There are a decent number of students at Hopkins who want to

socialize instead of study on weekends. We want to keep them safe, and the only way to do that is to make sure they register their parties."

He explained that the idea of how to enforce the registration provision came from the student subcommittee that collaborated with the Alcohol Strategy Working Group to draft the new alcohol and parties policy.

"The students explained that we would be total hypocrites if we didn't follow the very rules we're trying to en-

force," Daniels wrote. "We are, therefore, leading by example and requiring all faculty and staff, myself included, to register their off-campus parties."

Daniels explained the penalties faculty and staff face if they do not comply, which were also devised by the student subcommittee.

"If a faculty or staff member holds an unregistered party, all final exams will be canceled. Jk. You wish, homies!" Daniels wrote. "But in all seriousness, if a faculty

SEE PARTIES, PAGE A3

Class of 2020 is better than everyone

The incoming freshmen are too good to be true

By **CURRENT SENIOR**
Staff Writer

On March 18, Hopkins released regular decision admissions for the Class of 2020, revealing the newest baby Blue Jays to be the most impressive group of students to have ever graced the Earth.

Because of the exceptional nature of this class, the University has decided to terminate enrollment for all current Hopkins students to mobilize all available resources to be at the disposal for the new students.

Current seniors will graduate in May as planned, Provost Robert Lieberman explained, but the remainder of the undergraduates will not be

invited to return in the fall.

"When we think about the future of Johns Hopkins, we're always doing a cost-benefit analysis of sorts," Lieberman said. "At this time, it is not worth the effort to continue supporting the other classes."

"I hate to say this but all the current students at Hopkins don't really deserve to be here."

— ELLEN KIM,
DIRECTOR OF
UNDERGRADUATE
ADMISSIONS

The

3,122 students were admitted from a pool of 27,095 applicants, an acceptance rate of 11.5 percent. The cohort has the highest average high school GPA and the high-

est percentage of underrepresented minorities on record.

"The class not only breaks University records academically, but is also the most diverse to date," the University press release said.

The previous record for diversity was held by the also-record-breaking Class of 2019.

"The class not only breaks University records academically, but it the most diverse class Johns Hopkins has ever admitted," that year's press release said.

Ellen Kim, director of undergraduate admissions, commented upon this trend of record-breaking.

"As a school, we are heading in a positive direction. Every new class we admit is undeniably superior to the previous class," Kim said. "I hate to say this, but all the current students at Hopkins don't really deserve to be here because they aren't up to the caliber of the incoming classes."

Kim's sentiment is shared across the school administration. As a result, the University has decided to end the enrollments of all current students to dedicate all of their resources to the superior incoming class.

Lieberman elaborated
SEE PREFROSH, PAGE A2,

Bloomberg funds new student center

By **NOT MICHAEL BLOOMBERG**
News & Features Editor

In a series of 24 University-wide emails, University President Ronald J. Daniels outlined his vision for the new student center, newly named Bloomberg Tower. Alumnus Michael Bloomberg donated \$2.8 billion to the construction of the tower, which will be located on the current Mattin Center site.

"I love Hopkins, I love money, and I love putting my name on buildings, so naturally I had to build this resplendent tower in my own image," Bloomberg said. "And everyone knows that the Mattin Center is a breeding ground for crime and villainy."

Rising 43 stories and visible from every corner of Baltimore and the state of Mary-



COURTESY OF BLOOMBERG HIMSELF

The architecture firm's design for the new Bloomberg Tower.

land, the new student center will redefine the phrase "Hopkins' shadow."

At the ground level, a cafeteria run by Bon Appetit will provide students with meals ranging from a \$24.99 ribeye steak with melted butter sauce and a \$45.00 Surf and Turf special, which Daniels says will appeal especially to members of the Greek community on campus.

"We're really going for budget unlimited," he Facebook messaged *The News-Letter*. "Our dining service prides itself on being unaffordable, so why stop at a \$10.00 sandwich?"

The administration will allocate space in Bloomberg Tower on the criteria of most creative bribe and Administration Title Trivia, where student groups must memorize the titles of all University administrators from Assistant Mega Provost for Towson-Hopkins Bilateral Relations Maxim Kulofsky through MegaDean of Vice 7/11 Taste Testing Paula Kardashian to Dean for Lacrosse and Economics Robert Barbara.

The Supranational Governmental Agency (SGA) will occupy the top 15 stories of the Tower,

SEE TOWER, PAGE A2

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

"Bring back Dershowitz"

A petition calling upon the University to name lawyer Alan Dershowitz as the Commencement speaker has over 4,000 signatures.

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Campus security has real tips

The string of robberies has forced Campus Security to actually give students legitimate advice. NEWS, PAGE A7

Pietramala nets 12 goals

Coming out of retirement mid-game, men's lacrosse coach Dave Pietramala scored 12 goals. SPORTS, PAGE B10

NEWS & FEATURES

Mudd Hall to add 'culture' with new atrium



PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR EXTRAORDINAIRE

New renovations and decorations plan to adorn Mudd Hall into a hipster paradise complete with new couches and pictures of white men.

By CYD. BURNS
Staff Writer

Mudd Atrium will be revamped with a new aesthetic, the University announced Wednesday, in order to better serve the science community. The design plans include the installment of brown leather couches, stained glass windows, white floating lanterns and huge-ass portraits of old white men.

Vincent Hilser, chair of the Biology Department, believes that the biology students, faculty and researchers could benefit from some culture.

"All those Westerns and PCRs can be pretty mind-numbing, and we've seen the effects in recent years as more undergraduates join research labs," he said. "I've been working with Facilities and the Student Life Office to bring a new, creative energy into the space."

The Mudd Atrium, which was last renovated in 2013 when the Undergraduate Teaching Labs were built, has served as a social space for students who need to kill time before Cell Bio Lab and a top destination for campus tour groups. However, William Tan, the project manager, says that enough time has passed for another redesign.

"What we're most excited about — what the students are most excited about — is moving the portraits of historic men into the main atrium space," Tan said. "We're

going to really feature those guys and make sure when people are trying to study they are constantly making accidental eye contact with the old men and being inspired."

"We may even commission some more," he added. "Ideally, we'd like all portraits of historic old white dudes to be 15 to 20 feet high. Just really freaking huge."

Roberto Newcomer, a barista at Mudd's Daily Grind, said that Mudd has been heading toward the counterculture with the hiring of several new tattooed and bearded baristas this year, and changes are coming to the cafe's menu.

"We're planning to stop offering special drinks like Milky Ways or Jitter Machines anymore," he said. "And the smoothies are definitely gone. Cappuccinos and tiny hot chocolates will be the standard from now on. They may be small in portion and totally overpriced, but at least it's different."

Junior Clarissa Fairfield believes that a change in the Mudd Atrium's overall vibe is long overdue.

"Rocking chairs and high tables have become too mainstream," she

said. "And red is such a bland color — I hope we get some new bright orange chairs."

Sophomore Janessa Lowell, a Writing Seminars, Film & Media Studies and history of art triple

major with a minor in Women, Gender and Sexuality, can never find a chair when she needs one. She believes that transforming Mudd would attract humanities students and aid them in

their plight.

"You know, when I'm trying to read about the complexities of estates satire in Edmund Spenser's *Faerie Queene* and analyze the use of violence and addiction in Quentin Tarantino's films, I really need a quiet space to call my own," Lowell said.

"There's something about the smell of brown leather and stained glass windows that universally promotes learning in all types of student."

Bob Steisman, a construction worker at Hopkins who has worked on numerous projects throughout the years, believes that this will be the biggest undertaking yet and is excited to move forward with the project.

"Well you know, me and my friends, we build

paths," Steisman said. "Path-building is kind of our thing, and Hopkins seems to be really into it. Remember when the Freshman Quad was closed off for the entirety of last fall? And how the quad in front of Shriver is sectioned off too? Yep, that's us. I'm excited to finally be taking on bigger projects like this."

Construction on the Mudd Atrium is scheduled to begin this summer and is expected to last through the end of the 2016-17 school year.

Faculty required to register all parties

PARTIES, FROM A1

or staff member does not follow the rules, he or she will be compelled to attend a sorority chapter meeting and lead the bend-and-snap exercise. Cruel and unusual punishment will be the only way to ensure that faculty and staff follow these rules."

Penalties for students who violate the registration policy are notably less severe. Per the policy enacted last fall, guilty students are compelled to attend one counseling session in which they are put in time-out (they sit in a tiny chair facing a corner) for five minutes and then are given a lollipop on the way out. This punishment policy was drafted by the student subcommittee.

Senior Jonas Smith, a member of the subcommittee, discussed how the party registration requirement for faculty and staff was put into effect.

"This is actually hilarious. We kind of pitched this whole provision as a joke, but then all deans and Ronny D we're like 'Okay!' And even with the penalties, they, like, didn't even question it. They have way too much trust in us,"

Smith said, laughing.

Other students have also responded positively to the new provision.

"I think it's pretty dope that now us and the professors and stuff are all in the same boat," junior Andy Richardson, a frat bro, said.

Senior Kara Danvers concurred and was particularly thrilled by the fact that faculty and staff will face penalties if they don't comply with the policy.

"It's like *Animal Farm*, like we're all equal. No one's above the rules," Danvers said, before acknowledging that she has not read *Animal Farm*.

Daniels hopes that by making all members of the University subject to the same rules and policies, Hopkins will become a more tight-knit community.

"To quote my favorite movie of all time: 'We're all in this together. Once we know that we are, we're all stars and we see that. We're all in this together. And it shows when we stand hand in hand, make our dreams come true,'" Daniels wrote.

"We're all stars and our dream is party registration."

Strange noise heard on D-level



PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR EXTRAORDINAIRE

Students have been reporting strange noises coming from D Level, MSE Library's quietest floor.

By IZZY CUMMINGS
Staff Writer

Several reports of strange noises on D-level have surfaced within the last month, prompting the launch of a full investigation on behalf of Campus Safety and Security. The first major incident occurred on March 9, during midterms week, when students erupted in panic over a loud grunting sound.

Sophomore Noah Good recounted the chaos of that night:

"It was quiet, as usual you know. You couldn't even hear typing or pencil scratching or anything. Then, all of a sudden, bam! Grunting! When the fire alarm goes off, we all ignore it because we're used to it. But this, this was different. It was scary. We all scrambled out as fast as we could and called Security."

Campus Security unsuccessfully cleared the floor and took down students' accounts of the incident. Several students were taken to the Counseling Center to receive treatment for the shock and trauma they experienced.

Following that event, several other strange noises

have been reported. Junior Neva Wang described the "unsettling and bizarre" noises she heard last week around 2:30 a.m.

"It sounded like heavy breathing and whining," she said. "Sort of like moaning. I'd never heard anything like it on D-level before so, of course, I got really scared. I ran into the stairwell and called Security immediately."

Wang said that Security surveyed the entire D-level and found nothing unusual or out of the ordinary. She stated that while she was skeptical that Security was unable to find the source of the disturbance, she appreciated their prompt response to her distress call.

Freshman John Small explained that on his 67th consecutive night of studying on D-level, he heard squeaking noises coming from the other desk cubicles.

"Everyone knows that D-level is a silent floor — that's just fact," he said. "I actually wrote my Hopkins admission essay about how I planned to expand my studying habits by spending every single night on D-level.

I've made good on my promise. Last week was the first time that I heard these strange noises. I was all alone. There was no one else in sight. And I heard this squeaking sound. At first I ignored it. But then, I heard it again. That was when I decided to call Security."

Security officers arrived and escorted Small to B-level. Small stated that he was annoyed that he was unable to study during this time and added that B-level was far too loud for him to concentrate.

Campus Safety and Security Executive Director Lee James stated that the investigation into the strange noises is ongoing. In the meantime, he plans on installing several emergency Blue Light telephone systems on D-level to increase surveillance and security measures. A Security Alert was sent out, informing students of the incidents.

"Our students deserve to feel safe wherever they are, and that includes D-level of the library — the place that threatens our students sense of well-being on a daily basis," he said.

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NEWS & FEATURES

Tourists vacation at the Beach, Hopkins Inn

The springbreakers were confused by the lack of sand, surf



PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR EXTRAORDINAIRE

Groups of confused and disappointed tourists have been spotted in neon bathing suits around campus searching for the beach.

By **BEN THAIRE**
Staff Writer

Wednesday afternoon, a group of unfamiliar college students was found sitting on The Beach. They were wearing air sprayed T-shirts saying "SB2K16." But they looked very confused.

Hopkins students approached them, trying to see how they could help them out. One of the girls

in the group responded.

"Well, when I went online, I thought Charles Village might be a cool vacationing spot," she said. "We were particularly intrigued by this 'Hopkins Inn.' When we go springbreaking, we are always trying to find neat, affordable places. But when I got up to the door, I was unable to get in. Apparently you have to like 'swipe in' or something. Maybe they

forgot to send us our swipe cards before we came?"

The students decided to come to the area because they heard about a great beach on TripAdvisor.com. They felt like the site might have lied, though, or at least the people posting reviews on the site were lying.

"We're near a harbor, right?" one of the men in the group said. "What the hell kind of beach is this?"

When they were walking down St. Paul Street, they heard two groups of students, each hold-

ing brown paper bags yell at each other, "Beach??" They decided to follow this group of students, figuring it could be a good idea.

This is what led them to where they ended up: confused on The Beach.

"I thought there would be sand or something. I thought we were in the Chesapeake Bay area, so where is it? This beach isn't a real beach," the female student said.

After getting pizzas at Pizza Studio, the students decided they would get back in their cars and head elsewhere.

Johnny Hopkins vaped, research shows

By **AL KAHOLIC**
Staff Writer

We've all heard the outrageous claims. It seems like everyone and their mother has smoked weed with "Johnny Hopkins," but *The News-Letter* staff has remained dubious about the validity of these rumors.

Until recently, we haven't been able to pinpoint the source of our doubts; luckily the University Archaeology Department's recent investigation helped us do just that.

The archeological dig of the Homewood Outhouse yielded some ground-breaking revelations. Fourth year Ph.D. candidate Eugene "Pappy" Bilbolosis discovered a cache of long-lost artifacts beneath a loose mahogany floorboard. Among the items found were a leather-bound diary, a primitive vaporizer, a first edition Monopoly game set and 12 vials of dried up Boysenberry-flavored vape juice brewed by the Rotunda's best apothecary.

As if the list of items wasn't enough to contend each and every person's claim to have smoked weed with Johnny Hopkins, the contents

of the diary will truly put this controversy to rest. After a graphologist (handwriting expert) confirmed that the diary belonged to Johns Hopkins with 69 percent certainty, the document was placed in special collections for our eager reporters to crack open and investigate.

Allegedly, the pot situation in mid 19th century Baltimore was a "complete and utter tommyrot." It is then no surprise then that the rest of diary proceeds to capture Hopkins' journey as the original pioneer of vape culture. The famed philanthropist describes in lurid detail the "bulbous and capacious vaporclouds" he would gleefully release in all manner of social situations.

Unfortunately, Hopkins' contemporaries did not share this glee. Most feared the "exceeding fury" of Johnny, "The Charles Village Chimney's" vapor clouds, said to have the ability to fill a room with opaque white Boysenberry vapor. Many a lavish dinner party was soured by The Chimney's trusty vape and devil-may-care attitude. Consequently, Hopkins died a lonely and misunderstood death.

Professor unaware of student's other classes

By **CLARA SEBELLE**
Staff Writer

Professor Howard Smith of the Chemical Biomedical Engineering department of Johns Hopkins University was shocked last week when informed that students had been attending other classes the entire semester.

When asked by *The News-Letter* to comment on how students balance their workload, he expressed genuine confusion to learn that students were certainly taking more than one and at times up to five or six classes.

"Is this each semester?" he asked.

Smith expressed curiosity as to whether this had been going on this whole time or whether it was an initiative that had been started by the university this semester.

"I thought it was odd," said Gillian Woods, a senior in the professor's class. "Other than the classes, the difficulty and quantity of the workload, and the grading scale, the professor is such a relaxed and easygoing guy. It adds up now that I know he just didn't understand about the other classes."

Woods received a 45 percent on her last exam, placing her in the upper half of her class. Fred Barnes, a junior majoring in International Studies who overheard Woods' interview expressed con-

cern as to whether this may be a problem in other departments as well.

"I didn't understand why each class was expecting me to read 800 pages each week," he confessed, zipping open his suitcase of books that he brings to the library. "This makes much more sense."

"I thought the other books they were carrying around were recreational reading," commented Smith, elaborating that though he found the hours the students seemed to be studying incommensurate to the assignments, that he had simply thought them to be ineffective at studying.

Smith questioned whether the purported other classes the students were taking were "just as important as [his]" or "recreational." Having been assured that all classes were, indeed, weighted the same, Smith assured *The News-Letter* that he would be sure to immediately notify the rest of his colleagues of the situation. Smith was shocked to find out that even students in the Whiting School of Engineering must fulfill a writing requirement in order to graduate.

"You have to take writing classes? Even as an engineer? Like poetry?"

With this new information, Professor Smith might reconsider the amount of reading he assigns.

"Maybe," he said.

By **HUGH G. LYER**
Staff Writer

Junior Fanny DuVall loves life and is doing pretty great. A unique breed among Hopkins students, DuVall feels good about her future and is unfazed by the looming worry of post-graduation life that is typical of someone in her position.

"I've reached a point in my life where I understand who I am and what I want to be," DuVall, a biomedical engineering major, said. "Really! It's all under completely control."

DuVall is involved with many activities on campus from napping on the Beach in the sunshine until the chimes wake her up for class, spending up to six hours a day at the FFC (not including late-night) and finishing her homework twenty minutes before class.

When asked about her totally functional lifestyle, DuVall seemed surprised that anyone at Hopkins could be less than fine.

"This isn't a hard school at all," she said. "I mean, I could've gone to Princeton or something similar, but I wanted to take the relaxed route, you know? Have a chance to become the best version of me that I can."

According to friends, DuVall's best version of herself includes going to lectures hungover, day drinking through the entire month of April and taking spontaneous four-day weekends. Junior Ju-



PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR EXTRAORDINAIRE

Junior Fanny DuVall claims to feel completely in control of his life and future without worry.

lia Banks commented on her friend's habits.

"Fanny really is fine," Banks said. "I think everyone at Hopkins should adopt her lifestyle. If it works for her, why can't it work for the rest of us?"

However, senior Stacey Lennox, DuVall's big sister in the Delta Nu Epsilon Theta sorority, disagrees with Banks. She says that Fanny is not fine, and everything is not okay.

"Fanny won't even admit it to herself, but this isn't the best way to go through college," she said. "I mean, I got a 4.0 last semester, and I don't even think Fanny's GPA incorporates any numbers higher than zero."

DuVall is known as one of the most fine students at Hopkins. Her peers have begun to take notice of her habits, and the way she coasts through life at the University recently

inspired two student groups to come together to host a discussion called "What is Fine: The Fanny DuVall Effect."

During the discussion held Tuesday in the basement of Wolman Hall, moderators laid out a typical day for DuVall from morning until midnight, covering all the day drinking and napping in between. Students were then prompted to ask questions about their own lifestyles. DuVall herself was present at the event.

Senior Michael Dunbaum shot his hand up to ask the first question:

"How did you even get into Hopkins?" he asked.

DuVall responded that Hopkins's acceptance rate is high enough to admit mediocre students.

"It's not that hard," she said. "Try Dartmouth — they only accept 10 percent of applicants, and we're all the way up at 11.5. Their students are much smarter and work much more."

Dunbaum threw up his arms and left the event, prompting sympathetic looks from the other attendees. Once outside, he proceeded to kick over a

trash can while cursing his utterly unacceptable 3.9 GPA.

DuVall ended the discussion with a small speech on how everything can always be fine at Hopkins.

"This school makes us believe we can't get an A, juggle five clubs with classwork or get a job after graduation, if you're a humanities major," she said.

"You've never gotten an A in a single class!" sophomore Amelia Black shouted.

DuVall continued, unruffled as usual.

"Regardless," she said. "You can do anything you want to at Hopkins. We may not be Princeton or Dartmouth, and we may have lost to UMD in lacrosse last year. But we are not hopeless. Everything is fine."

Since the discussion, DuVall has been reported to continue doing exactly what she has always done at Hopkins. She might graduate with her class, or she may not. No matter the outcome, according to DuVall, everything is sure to work out great.

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TEMPS D'AFRIQUE SHOWCASE



IVANA SU/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

The African-interest dance group hosted its fifth annual showcase, "The Year of the Beat," in Shriver Hall on Saturday. See Page B3.

Funding Homewood: breaking down the budget

By SAM FOSSUM
Staff Writer

With tuition rising, students often complain that Hopkins costs too much, and the University should use its billions to reduce their financial burden instead of erecting yet another shiny building.

Students ask where their dollars go, often expressing anger toward the lack of transparency surrounding the use of their tuition money. The University has never made this information easily available.

In reality, the majority of the University's endowment and revenue belongs to the many schools not found on the Homewood

campus. The two Homewood schools run much leaner than Hopkins' reported endowment would suggest.

In 2015, the University's endowment was roughly \$3.4 billion with the Whiting School of Engineering (WSE) and the Krieger School of Arts & Sciences (KSAS) owning about 18.5 percent in total.

According to James Aumiller, the senior associate dean of finance and administration for WSE, \$130 million of the University's reported endowment belongs to WSE. His counterpart in KSAS, Daniel A. Cronin, cites a \$500 million endowment. The remaining 81.5 percent of the University's

endowment belongs to the other schools such as the School of Medicine and the Carey School of Business.

Aumiller explained that looking at the total endowment does not reflect the money available to KSAS or WSE, which help to fund other Homewood Campus programs, such as the Sheridan Libraries, Campus Safety and Security and Homewood Student Affairs.

"When I read the national papers, and they got Hopkins raising \$3.4 billion, that's not going to the Krieger or Whiting schools," Aumiller said. "A big hunk of that is the School of Medicine and grateful patients."

Other top ten universities have endowments that are up to ten times the size of that of Hopkins. Harvard's endowment in 2014 was \$36.4 billion, while Yale reported \$23.9 billion. Harvard can use endowment funds to subsidize other schools, since more of their endowment is collected centrally and disseminated among the schools. Roughly 30 percent of Harvard's endowment does not belong to a

SEE FINANCE, PAGE A6

Free speech debate erupts over statue

By KELSEY KO
Staff Writer

The phrase "End Israeli Apartheid," recently painted on the Blue Jay sculpture outside of the Fresh Food Café (FFC), has sparked a debate over free speech on campus.

Jay the Blue Jay has been a medium for discussion and expression since it was installed in late October, sporting messages that vary from "Trans Lives Matter" to "F**k the Police."

In response to "End Israeli Apartheid," Rabbi Debbie Pine, executive director of Hopkins Hillel, called on the University to put guidelines in place regarding content that can be painted on the statue.

"Israel is complex and important to Jews and to me, and I found the statement to be inflammatory and to shut down dialogue," Pine said. "I've actually found the administration to be amazing and feel that they really understand civil discourse and pluralism, and I've often turned to Dean [of Student Life Terry] Martinez, [Vice Provost for Student Affairs] Kevin Shollenberger, [University Provost] Robert C. Lieberman, and [University] President [Ronald J.] Dan-

iels for insight and guidance on how to navigate these sensitive conversations."

Pine also said that many Jewish students told her that they found the anti-Israel message to be offensive.

"Students did find it inflammatory," Pine said. "I don't think it's my place as a part of Hillel to say what's appropriate on campus in terms of the statue, but I feel that if any group is hurt, or if anything is perceived as inflammatory or as closing conversation, I think it's important to say so."

Shollenberger explained the statue's role on campus.

"As you may know, the Blue Jay statue was erected last fall at the request of our undergraduate students and is modeled on similar community platforms at a number of other universities," Shollenberger wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*. "It is a place where students are able to express views, sentiments and criticisms anonymously. As it says on the Jay plaque, many of these postings are expected to promote the 'Blue Jay spirit.' Others



SJP/FACEBOOK

In the context of Israeli Apartheid Week, students painted Jay the Blue Jay.

may consist of provocative speech; we know this kind of expression will be met by counter-speech or, most likely, painted over by other students."

SEE SPEECH, PAGE A5

Turkish students respond to turmoil

By MORGAN OME
For *The News-Letter*

Multiple terrorist attacks have struck Turkey this month. The most recent bombing on March 19 was the fourth major terrorist attack of the year. At least 42 people have been killed and 163 injured throughout the month in the attacks on Ankara, Turkey's capital, and Istanbul, its largest city.

At the same time, there has been conflict in Turkey's Southeast, which is populated primarily by minority Kurds. The Turkish army is fighting against Kurdish independence movements like the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK), which the United States and Turkey deem a terrorist organization, but which many call freedom fighters. This situation along Turkey's border with Syria has further destabilized a region

already in turmoil.

Additionally, the Turkish government, led by Recep Tayyip Erdogan's moderate Islamist AKP party, has instituted a crackdown on the country's independent press. Earlier in March, the government seized a prominent media organization, Feza Gazetecilik, its two newspapers, *Zaman* and *Today's Zaman*, and its news agency Cihan.

Zaman is the nation's most widely circulated newspaper. Police fired tear gas, rubber bullets and water cannons to disperse the 500 supporters who gathered to protest *Zaman's* takeover, according to the BBC.

In addition, two well-known Turkish journalists, Can Dündar and Erdem Gül, are currently on trial for espionage charges after publishing an exposé in 2014 that revealed the

SEE TURKEY, PAGE A4

Biden unveils Hopkins cancer research center

By ABBY BIESMAN
News & Features Editor

A \$125 million gift to create a new cancer center at the Hopkins Hospital was announced Tuesday by Vice President Joe Biden, former New York City Mayor and Hopkins alumnus Michael Bloomberg and University President Ronald J. Daniels.

The gift created the Bloomberg-Kimmel Institute for Cancer Immunotherapy, which will unite more than 100 scientists and clinicians from diverse fields to research new therapies.

Biden's oldest son Beau passed away from brain cancer last year at age 46, inspiring the Vice President's decision to lead the "moonshot" campaign to "put ourselves on a path to achieve, in just five years, research and treatment gains that otherwise might take a decade or more," according to White House officials.

"This Institute is going to perfect new therapies and bring hope to millions of people," Biden said. "I'm convinced, not only will we save millions of lives, we will re-instill in the American public the notion that anything is possible."

Biden is travelling across the country to jump-start new cancer-fighting efforts, part of the Obama administration's one billion-dollar initiative.

Daniels and Paul Rothman, Dean of the Medical Faculty and CEO of Johns Hopkins Medicine, sent an email to the University about the Institute.

"The Institute will focus on the development of promising therapies that unleash the power of patients' natural defense—their immune system—to seek out and eradicate cancer," the email stated.

Of the \$125 million in funding, Bloomberg donated \$50 million, founder of Jones Apparel Group Sidney Kimmel donated \$50 million, and more than a dozen other supporters donated a total of \$25 million.

Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan and Maryland Senators Barbara Mikulski and Ben Cardin were in attendance, as well as researchers and medical students.

After the event, which was standing room only, Biden shook students' hands and took photographs with them.

Q&A with Greek Life Dir. Calvin Smith

By ASHLEY KIM
For *The News-Letter*

Nearing the end of his first year as director of Fraternity and Sorority Life (FSL), Calvin Smith has already made several changes to Hopkins Greek culture, from altering recruitment procedures to supporting the University's new party registration policy. In an email interview with *The News-Letter*, he reflected on his performance this year, the current state of Greek life at Hopkins and his hopes for the future.

The News-Letter: How do you think your first year as Greek life director is going?
SEE SMITH, PAGE A5

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

MLB season predictions

Ian Gustafson tells us why Apple should have opened the terrorist's iPhone for the government.
OP/ED, PAGE B11



Animal Rights Violation Alert

Hopkins is under investigation for animal rights violations again.
NEWS, PAGE A3

A man and his coconuts

What would happen if you only ate coconuts for the rest of your life? Find out in this week's Irrelevant History.
HIP HOP, PAGE A9

NEWS & FEATURES

TASA celebrates traditional Taiwanese food



COURTESY OF TASA

Members of TASA served food to students who learned about Taiwanese culture.

By **KAREN SHENG**
Staff Writer

The Taiwanese Student Association (TASA) hosted "A Ramen-tic Night" in celebration of traditional Taiwanese cuisine on Saturday in Charles Commons. The free event featured chicken and vegetarian ramen, Taiwanese tea eggs and Chinese sausage as well as a raffle to win two tickets to TASA's Night Market event in late April. The ramen was served with fish balls, tofu, eggs, bean sprouts, carrots and corn.

Ramen and tea eggs are a ubiquitous part of Taiwanese culture, so popular they are carried in convenience stores like 7-Eleven. Tea eggs have their shells cracked before being boiled in a mix of tea and spices.

TASA Programming Chair Allan Wang discussed how the event's theme was chosen.

"When we were brainstorming themes, [the junior officers] originally wanted to do a convenience store kind of theme because in Taiwan, 7-Eleven and OK Marts are very popular, but logistically that would have been too difficult because there are too many dishes," he said. "They decided to focus on ramen, which is pretty common, and tea eggs, which you can buy in any convenience store in Taiwan."

A Ramen-tic Night was created and run entirely by junior officers.

"It's a smaller event just to help junior officers get experience with programming," Wang said.

Junior officers said the event gave them a good idea of what is involved in programming an event and allowed them to feel more integrated into TASA.

"Normally we have committee chairs that do everything, and we just do what they assign us to do," Amy Xiao said. "They said that this was a really good way for us to plan things and execute things, and obviously we have run into some obstacles, and now we know what to expect and then how we can deal with them."

Xiao also said she got to know the other junior officers better.

"[C]ooking together made us feel like more a part of TASA instead of just being the underlings. We're starting to come together as a part of the group."

Junior Officer Vivian Jou agreed the constant teamwork helped everyone bond.

"We had to figure out rooms, like booking a room, and then we had to do a lot of coordination between the junior of-

ficers, just like who's going to do what, who's going to buy what, what ingredients to buy and what portions, how many people to expect," she said. "And then we also had to book

the kitchens because we obviously had to cook the food."

The junior officers also faced challenges due to their lack of experience. Jou described the difficulties with cooking all the food and attempting to come up with a title for the event.

"We had to coordinate a lot between us junior officers, like trying to decide on a final theme. We were flip-flopping between so many ideas, and it was just like, we finally decided on ramen," she said. "That was actually one of the hardest parts of the event, just coming up with a name. 'Ramen-tic' was just a pun — that was basically the main reason."

Xiao said the biggest obstacle was trying to estimate how many people would come to the event and making sure there would be enough food for everyone. Food ran out by 7:42 p.m., nearly an hour before the advertised end of the event.

Wang said a low turnout was expected.

"We can't put too much stress on our younger officers so it's scaled back," he said. "We have less food, and we don't publicize it as much because it's a smaller event just to help junior officers get experience with programming."

Student reactions to the event were positive, with most attendees saying they came for the free food. Freshman Lalit Varada praised the cuisine.

"It was pretty good," she said. "I don't know what I expected but it exceeded my expectations."

Freshman Jim Huang, who is Taiwanese and a member of TASA, said he greatly enjoyed the food.

"I also like the sausages. You can't find anything like them in Baltimore so it's pretty cool that they have the sausages because it reminds me of home," he said.

The event also helped deepen students' understanding of Taiwanese culture.

Freshman Celine Arpornsuksant, who did not know ramen is popular in Taiwan, said she now has a deeper appreciation for Taiwanese cuisine.

TASA will host a Night Market on April 23.

"[The Night Market] is the biggest event of spring semester where we decorate the entire Martin courtyard," Xiao said. "Last year we had Eclectics come and lots of food and lots of fun games. It's a big event. Everyone should come."



COURTESY OF TASA

Students enjoyed Taiwanese fare during TASA's A Ramen-tic Night in Charles Commons.

SGA debates funding own tickets to FAS

By **SHERRY KIM**
Staff Writer

The Student Government Association (SGA) discussed a bill for funding Foreign Affairs Symposium (FAS) seats at its weekly meeting on Tuesday in Charles Commons. Executive Treasurer Matthew Bee sponsored the bill, which proposed an allocation of \$500 in support and sponsorship of SGA events in return for eight reserved seats at each event for SGA representatives.

Although the bill has yet to be approved, SGA members have been receiving free reserved seating at FAS events this year. Executive President Jack Bartholet explained this is because he committed the money to the FAS cause before actually signing the bill into action.

"I accept responsibility," Bartholet said. "We should never have had a bill without running it through the Senate. I wrongfully committed the money, and I apologize for that, but I still think we need to honor this commitment. Now we owe them the money so we need to allocate it."

Bee said the SGA should not allocate funds before passing a bill.

"We shouldn't make agreements before we have it actually pass through the SGA Senate," he said. "It is something that we should hold ourselves to in the future."

Junior Class Senator Liam Haviv took issue with this bill and the arrangement made between the SGA and the FAS, stating it seemed to corroborate a form of bribery.

"This is an issue because SGA members were given seats [at FAS events] using the SGA budget, which is not what our budget is for," Haviv said. "Our budget is meant for student organizations, not for us to get seats at FAS events. Sponsorship occurs when groups work together to make an event happen. We didn't do anything. We went, sat and watched their event, and we gave them money. We're not included in FAS events or anything like that."

Haviv thinks SGA members should pay for their own seats. Bartholet agreed, contradicting his original reasoning.

"I don't think it's really appropriate to buy seats for ourselves," Bartholet said. "I think there were initially good reasons for doing it but now, looking at it more meta, I think it may be considered a kind of nepotism and not what we should be spending students' funds on. If we were to practically use the seats, give them to professors to get to know them better or give the seats to other students, that would make more sense."

Some SGA members disagreed, citing that this is merely another form of sponsorship, as with any other student organization.

"I understand how this may be construed as bribery, but it works the

same way that we have different fraternities and organizations ask us for funds to provide services," Junior Class Senator Adelaide Morphet said. "We are helping to fund [FAS] events and in return we are getting better seats. I just don't think that we should jump to the term 'bribery' for what we've been doing for 10 years or so."

Senior Class Senator Max Wilde proposed rewriting the bill to make it more ethically acceptable.

"We do need to pass it now, this year, because we have already taken the service, but I think we could change some of the language in the bill," Wilde said. "The bill puts it rather bluntly — the fact that we exchanged seats for sponsorship. It's more like we're giving them money so they can fund their events."

Freshman Class Senator Akshay Bhamidipati argued the merits of the bill are irrelevant at the moment since the funds have already been allocated.

"The ethics behind this can be discussed

next year,"

B h a m i -

dipati said.

"But right

now this is

an issue of

the student

groups'

trust in us,

as the SGA,

and the loss

of trust if we

do not fund

them at this

point."

A f t e r

making an

amendment

to 'modify the language in the bill and adding another point under the bill's "Purposes" section, the Senate voted in on the bill. It passed with two abstentions and one vote against it.

Two other bills were also introduced to the floor and passed with an overwhelming majority.

The first bill, also sponsored by Bee, requested SGA funding for Phi Gamma Delta's (FIJI) and Reserve Officers Training Corps' (ROTC) annual charity event known as The Push. In teams of eight, participants attempt to push an army Humvee across the Homewood practice field to raise money for the United Service Organization (USO). Participants are required to raise a minimum of \$10 in order to register.

The second bill, sponsored by Wilde, requested SGA funding for a T-shirt tie-dye event accompanying the Hopkins vs. University of Maryland lacrosse game on April 30. With the help of the SGA and the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC), the athletic department will be able to provide 500 free T-shirts in the days leading up to the game. The request asks the SGA to provide \$1,000 and SAAC to give \$500.

SGA also discussed its upcoming elections. Current members are in the process of preparing transition documents and events to help prepare for a smooth changeover.

"We are trying very hard to make the process more transparent this year," Bartholet said. "We are trying to make it a more open process that the entire school is more involved with."

Md. Senate passes act to protect student press

By **CLAIRE FOX**
Staff Writer

The New Voices Act (Senate Bill 764) passed the Maryland Senate with amendments in a 36-10 vote on March 18 and has been moved to the House Ways and Means Committee. This new bill proposes extending rights of freedom of the press to high school and college student media.

Originally introduced by Democratic Senators Jamie Raskin and Jim Rosapepe on Feb. 5, the anti-censorship legislation seeks to protect student journalist and advisor rights in school-sponsored publications, regardless of whether the institution is financially backing the media. Student journalists of school-sponsored publications currently do not have any additional protections against censorship guaranteed by Maryland state law.

Should the bill be passed, it would allow student editors to determine the news, opinions, features and advertising of their publications, granted the content is not libelous, in violation of state and federal law or an invasion of privacy, without oversight by school executives.

Lead bill sponsor Senator Raskin testified in support of the act with three other free speech supporters: Rebecca Snyder, executive director of the Maryland-Delaware-DC Press Association; Frank LoMonte, executive director of the Student Press Law Center; and Karen Houppert, a journalist and former adviser of Morgan State University's student newspaper. No one testified in opposition to the bill.

During the bill's second reading in the Senate, some legislators had doubts. Senator Stephen Hershey (R), for example, feared the legislation could allow corrupt journalism advisors to influence students' work rather than guide them. With this in mind, amendments were added to the bill to prevent advisors from manipulating student media to promote an official school stance.

Additionally, the Maryland Association of Boards of Education has openly opposed the bill, viewing it as too radical. The act has, however, received endorsements from several publications in Maryland.

Junior Mira Haqqani, editor-in-chief of the *JHU Politik*, supports the senti-

ments of Senate Bill 764.

"The importance of freedom of speech on campus is often underrated," she wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*. "I think that this bill is a step in the right direction in that we cannot claim to be a diverse institution if we do not allow open debate and free expression."

Part of a national student-powered grassroots campaign advocated by the nonprofit Student Press Law Center, the New Voices Act has three distinct goals: restore student expression rights in public high schools, protect them in public colleges and extend those protections to private institutions.

The movement aims to reinstate the precedent set by *Tinker v. Des Moines* in 1968, which protected student speech unless it included libel, invaded privacy, incited danger or disrupted the functions of the school substantially. However, the 1988 ruling of *Hazelwood School District v. Kuhlmeier* reduced protections for student journalism by giving school administrations the authority to easily justify curtailing free speech in educational settings. New Voices is currently pushing for new anti-censor-

ship state reform to counter the effects of *Hazelwood*.

Sophomore Kailyn Fiocca expressed her thoughts on school censorship and the new legislation.

"Having written for a newspaper that was pretty heavily supervised and influenced by my high school's administration, I think it's really essential that students have the right to say what they want to say," she said. "[This bill] is important because otherwise, true student voices won't be heard, and that's really unfair."

If Maryland passes Senate Bill 764, it will join the likes of California, Oregon and North Dakota, which have similar legislation set to protect the rights of student media, and Rhode Island, Michigan, Minnesota, Illinois and Nebraska which have active New Voices bills.

Although the bill will not apply to private universities, Haqqani noted that at an institution like Hopkins, the ability for open student expression is critical.

"Strong student voices lead to well informed and engaged graduates," she wrote, "and I think that's what we should be striving for."

NEWS & FEATURES

Visiting professors talk Israel through lens of international law



ELLIE HALLENBORG/PHOTOGRAPHY STAFF

Law professor Eugene Kontorovich used comparative historical jurisprudence to justify Israel's borders.

By **ROLLIN HU**
Staff Writer

Eugene Kontorovich, a professor of law specializing in international law from Northwestern University, had a conversation with School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) professor and former UN official Ruth Wedgwood on Wednesday. They discussed the merits and faults of using a framework of international law to analyze Israel's position in the world. The event was hosted by the Israel on Campus Coalition, Hopkins Hillel, StandWithUs and the Department of International Studies.

The talk began with Kontorovich discussing the meaning of international law and the implications of the concept of international law.

"To lay the bases we are going to discuss fully from a perspective of international law which doesn't necessarily coincide with, comport with what is good or what is just, international law doesn't necessarily mean that," Kontorovich said. "We have to first say, what is international law and where does it come from? That itself is a subject of a semester long seminar. There is no international legislature, no international congress that passes laws and rules binding all the countries of the world. In the international legal system, the top level of actors are countries. Any rules must come from the countries themselves and international law in short is the proposition that countries can create rules to bind themselves and each other... in the form of treaties."

He then tied international law to the history of Israel and the surrounding region, emphasizing strongly how the mandates issued following World War I set up the borders of the State of Israel.

"After World War I, there is the emergence of the League of Nations... through a treaty," Kontorovich said. "And in that treaty they give it the power to supervise a system in what is known as mandates, that is essentially to set up a system of returning some of the former colonial possessions of the defeated powers of world one into new independent nation states."

Article 22 of the League of Nations mandates they are to create a state in this territory called Palestine. The League of Nations said that it should be a national home for the Jewish people... The one particular right that Jews are given in this land is settlement."

To support his argument that Israel's borders follow the League of Nations mandate, Kontorovich used comparative historical jurisprudence to point out how Israel has been treated unequally under the view of international law. Specifically, he addressed how other countries in the Middle East had not had an uncontested right to existence throughout history despite the fact that the territories of Israel and the Middle East were created through the same treaty.

"If you don't recognize the borders of a country in which it was created in, it also calls into question all of the borders of the Middle East, Turkey Syria, Iraq, Kuwait," Kontorovich said.

Kontorovich stressed that it does not matter in the view of international law whether these drawn borders were good for the Middle East.

"It turns out none of the borders by the League of Nations were good for peace in the Middle East except no one has seen this as a basis for redrawing them," Kontorovich said.

Following his talk, Ruth Wedgwood of SAIS began a counterargument, using a more political lens at interpreting Israel's situation. She first brought up the concept of effectivity to explain Israel's presence in the world.

"Effectivity. If something is sticking for a long period time, it becomes the state of play, it becomes the state of the world," Wedgwood said. "I do like these legal brain teasers, but life moves on and the purpose in moving forward is trying to make a sustainable Jewish state... that will keep Palestinians happy. So I'm not sure of this kind of 'legal debate trumping normative rules' because things do change in the world."

Wedgwood said that politics is a good starting point to remedy issues in Israel.

"I would think much less of this archaeology of legal matters. My lesson from my 15 years of fooling around in politics at the U.N. is that you have to have a bespoke diplomacy, a personal one-on-one diplomacy. You have to do favors for people... and you build up the good will that really when push comes to shove, they will vote for you," Wedgwood said. "So I guess my other point is that in my personal view, Israel has to be much more cognizant of the needs of the

Palestinian community in order to prosper and be better integrated, to break down ethnic segregation... to make it a much more heterogeneous population and really try to give Palestinians living in Gaza and the West Bank an economic stake in society."

Professor of International Relations Steven David was present in the audience of the event and spoke of how the talk was engaging despite his own disagreements with Kontorovich's message.

"It was a provocative discussion. I agree with some of what was said. I felt that Professor Kontorovich made a lot of compelling points, but it adopted what I considered to be a very narrow legal framework," David said. "He ignored the broader political issues which really determine Middle

East politics, not what's going to win out in a law school forum or in a moot court atmosphere. But I thought he did a very good job."

Students found the differing perspectives offered by the exchange between Kontorovich and Wedgwood to be enriching.

"I thought it was enlightening," sophomore Jared Mayer said. "Overall, it was very interesting to get both a legal and a more political perspective as to what Israel should do and as to what Israel needs to do."

Freshman Sean Jost echoed this sentiment and especially appreci-

ated the presentation of the legal perspective.

"I thought it was very interesting. I kind of liked how the two speakers offered two very different perspectives on the issues. I thought it very interesting how they really tried to distinguish between law and politics," Jost said. "I liked how the talk was about the law aspect because I know when you try to get into the political aspect, it gets very muddling and I liked when they were just talking what the laws are. They're on paper, they're treaties and when it comes down to these conflicts, it comes down to interpretations of the law."



ELLIE HALLENBORG/PHOTOGRAPHY STAFF

Around 30 students and community members attended Wednesday night's event.

Hopkins labs allegedly violate Animal Welfare Act

By **EMMA ROALSVIG**
For *The News-Letter*

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has issued the University an "Official Warning" for violating the Animal Welfare Act on March 18 for its treatment of primate test subjects. The USDA had originally reported a detailed description of Hopkins' repeated violations of animal care in October 2015, attempting to enforce animal rights regulations in research laboratories.

Stop Animal Exploitation Now (SAEN) is collaborating with the USDA to file this complaint. SAEN, an activist animal rights organization, was founded to end animal abuse in laboratory experiments.

In 2001, SAEN and the USDA filed the largest Official Complaint in history, which uncovered animal abuses in many nationally known laboratories including at Hopkins, UCLA, MIT, Stanford, Yale and Harvard, among dozens of others.

The complaint filed in March alleges inadequate veterinary care and failure to provide legally mandated environmental enhancements for primates used for testing in laboratories. The report does not mention the specific affiliated research laboratory in question.

Hopkins research laboratories were cited by the USDA for violations including evidence of monkeys with sustained injuries, including severe hair loss. In the official report, some primates are listed with severe generalized alopecia. An Inspection Report filed for a routine inspection of Research Animal Resources at Johns Hopkins Medicine details how each primate has been affected.

"Eight Primates... were noted to have significant hair loss at the time of inspection," the report stated. "The underlying skin in these areas is pigmented, typical for the species but several also had redness of the skin."

Primate 72X in particular had suffered both physical wounds and hair loss, but was not given adequate treatment for either condition.

"The record showed no workup for hair loss. In the past year, the animal had a wound (4/16/15), gave birth (6/15/15)... the animal was noted to be hypoalbuminemic with severe Generalized alopecia and diarrhea but no treatment plan was noted

"Johns Hopkins is ignoring the fact that these monkeys have essentially lost their minds."

— MICHAEL BUDKIE, SAEN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

"As indicated by the manager's comments, hair loss in primates can result from multiple causes. Evaluation by a veterinarian is necessary to determine the most likely cause and develop an appropriate diagnostic and treatment plan," the report stated. "Failure to address abnormal conditions can result in worsening of the condition and unnecessary suffering."

The USDA Official Warning mentions three specific misdemeanors regarding the improper care of animals, but the

tally is not meant to be an all-inclusive list. The first misdemeanor concerns evidence against proper veterinary care and a violation of section 2.40(b)(2) of the Code of Federal Regulations.

"Each dealer or exhibitor shall establish and maintain programs of adequate veterinary care that include: the use of appropriate methods to prevent, control, diagnose, and treat diseases and injuries, and the availability of emergency, weekend, and holiday care," the warning stated.

The second violation pertained to the proper handling of the animals and was filed as a violation under the Miscellaneous category section 2.38(f)(1).

"Handling of all animals shall be done as expeditiously and carefully as possible in a manner that does not cause trauma, overheating, excessive cooling, behavioral stress, physical harm, or unnecessary discomfort," it reads.

The third violation regarded proper primary enclosures for the animals under section 3.80(a)(2)(ii). It said that these animal cages should be constructed so that they protect primates from injuring themselves.

According to the SAEN report, at least one primate used as a research subject was so stressed from poor treatment that it had ripped all of its hair out. SAEN calls this mild penalty

issued by the USDA an unsuitable punishment for their disregard for animal well-being.

"The negligence which allows primates to become so psychologically deranged as to have ripped out all of their hair deserved a meaningful penalty," SAEN Executive Director Michael A. Budkie said. "This is nothing more than a paper slap on the wrist. Johns Hopkins is ignoring the fact that these monkeys have essentially lost their minds."

Under the law, it is the University's responsibility to ensure that its faculty, animals and property are in compliance with USDA Animal Welfare regulations. SAEN has sought a federal fine against the University for these violations of animal rights.

Students reacted negatively upon hearing how Hopkins allegedly mistreated primates. Freshman Sarina Redzinski said she is disappointed in its treatment of primates.

"I think it's horrible that our school would allow such a thing," she said. "I love Johns Hopkins, and I love being a student here, but I most definitely do not think this is okay."

Freshman Chris Mejia added that using animals as test subjects in laboratories does not make it acceptable for them to be treated poorly.

"Hopkins should not neglect the care of its test subjects. I know they're being used in research, but that does not mean that they can be treated as disposable objects," he said. "They are creatures that can also feel pain and suffer from many conditions that affect humans as well. Hopkins should put an end to this type of abuse and ensure that it does not happen again."

Errata: March 24 Edition

In the March 24, 2016 edition of *The News-Letter*, the article "Spike Lee to speak at commencement" previously misidentified the undergraduate college attended by Lee. He attended Morehouse College.

The News-Letter regrets this error.

NEWS & FEATURES

TEDx speakers confront global and local issues

By MEAGAN PEOPLES
Staff Writer

TEDxJHU hosted a series of Technology Entertainment and Design (TED) talks titled "Instructions Not Included" Saturday in Mudd. Seven speakers attracted an audience of faculty, students and members of the Baltimore community and was live-streamed on JHU's Ustream channel.

Eric Chen and Steve Park, co-curators of the event, discussed how TEDxJHU chose the event speakers and theme.

"Our University is especially pre-professionally orientated, and we want to promote the fact that a path to finding a career you can be proud of is not one that's narrow or linear," Chen wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*. "We didn't choose speakers solely based on their professional background or how long their lists of accomplishments extend. Our most important priority was to find speakers that we believed had a valuable and interesting story to share to students."

Park discussed how the design team, led by Alvina Yau, incorporated this theme into the materials for the event.

"We are so proud to have a group of talented designers who made our theme into a work of art," Park wrote. "From set design to custom event buttons, we made sure that our visuals of the event reflected our theme."

Jennifer Dailey, a materials science and engineering Ph.D. candidate at Hopkins, spoke about her own undergraduate experience and the importance of asking questions in order to make the most of education.

"What has gotten me through the confusion and the anxiety is learning to ask for help. There was a semester during my senior year of undergrad where I cried every single day after classes and besides my family, no one had any idea. Because that's not the face you're supposed to show the world. You smile and you nod and you brag about how easy the homework is and blame the professor when something goes wrong," she said. "And you name drop philosophers and Nobel laureates all in the hope of getting through one more week with nobody realizing what a complete fraud you are who has no business being at a top-tier institution."

After describing her difficult undergraduate experience, she cautioned the audience against doing activities just because they feel obligated to. She said she has spent significant time studying how students learn differently and the factors that push them to engage in mandatory classes they might not actually enjoy.

"When you're reminded to constantly reevaluate yourself and your learning and your goals, you might be really surprised to see how much they've changed without you even noticing," she said.

She is also the recent recipient of the National Science Foundation graduate scholarship.

Dr. Youseph Yazdi, executive director of the Hopkins Center for Bioengineering Innovation and Design (CBID), who spoke about the process of design and how he applies

certain design principles to his life.

"You think about our grandparents, our great-grandparents — 90 percent of their lives were proscribed by the circumstances of their birth: what they ate, what language they spoke, their values, in some cases who they married," he said. "But in the modern era we are writing our own biographies; We are designing our own path in life."

Yazdi said the impetus for good design springs from emotional empathy. To illustrate this, he discussed the award-winning personal protective gear worn by healthcare workers helping fight Ebola, which he helped design. The blueprints for uniform design were inspired by Yazdi's concern for healthcare workers putting their lives at risk to help the sick.

Another speaker, Adrienne Todman, the executive director of the District of Columbia housing authority, discussed the importance of safe and affordable housing in a person's success.

"You might agree with me that there are some key ingredients to becoming successful — things like good education, good health, a

good paying job, an excellent business, a successful business, a warm and supportive community," Todman said. "But have you ever stopped and thought about the importance of housing?"

Todman addressed statistics about housing including that in Washington, D.C. If you make minimum wage, you have to work over 100 hours a week to afford a two-bedroom unit. She also discussed the lack of available housing.

"Public housing is singularly one of the most underfunded federal housing programs that exist," she said. "It is fundamentally unfair because tonight there are over two million people who will rely on this housing for their path to success."

Hopkins alumnus Rohit Dayal enjoyed Todman's talk.

"I know about public housing generally as an issue and how the program works but what's interesting to me, having lived in D.C. for the last three years or so, about how that works [is] how many people are in public housing so it gave me a little greater context of the city," Dayal said.

After Dayal, Jean Fan spoke. She is a Ph.D. candidate at Harvard University, a photographer and an entrepreneur. Fan created cuSTEMized, a website that offers free downloads of customizable books with the goal of encouraging girls to explore STEM fields.

"When trying to address an issue like the underrepresentation of women in STEM, it was really my artistic and scientific skills combined that allowed me to start contributing potential solutions," she said.

Fan spoke about the importance of STEM



KAREEM OSMUN/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR
"Instructions Not Included" attracted students and Baltimore citizens.

fields, particularly for women.

"I don't think everybody needs to go into STEM but everybody needs to be able to think critically and logically and in a scientific manner," she said.

Eric Chen wrote specifically about this talk and how he can relate.

"As an international studies and applied math double [major], I often wonder to myself whether the time I spend working in the arts is valuable. Her talk is certainly the positive reinforcement I need," he wrote.

Nicholas Perrett, who founded Club G Plus in Shanghai as well as a men's lifestyle brand in Los Angeles, spoke about the science and management of luck. Perrett claimed that luck isn't completely random and instead can be influenced by risk taking, attitude and networking.

"The luckiest people are the ones who have, over their lifetimes, accrued a large number

of friendly relationships with many, many people," he said. "There's a distinction here between friendly relationships and friendships. We can only manage so many friends — our time is finite — but friendly relationships are equally important, to know a lot of people and have people remember you."

Perrett's talk stood out to Rohit Dayal as it was the only one which seemed unconnected to Hopkins or the greater Baltimore community.

"Everyone else was either a researcher, a Ph.D. student or involved with the Baltimore community," he said. "He's not, so his story is unique and interesting but he also ties it to the luck that all the other speakers have."

After an event intermission, Sonia Sarkar, chief policy and engagement officer at the Baltimore City Health Department and Hopkins alumna, spoke about her love of public health and how she is currently working in the city to improve health outcomes.

"We know the barriers that prevent care from converting into health: poverty, structural discrimination and inequality, lack of access to essential resources. These are deep-rooted challenges that no single individual or institution or system can possibly peel back," she said. Before joining the Health Department, Sarkar worked with a charity organization, Health Leads, which allows doctors to prescribe basic necessities for patients so they can be

healthier in their everyday habits and lives.

She spoke of one mother's story living with her three kids and several others in a Baltimore city row home which had asbestos dust and peeling lead paint.

"Her pediatrician listened to all this and decided to write two prescriptions, one for an inhaler for the asthma and another for food and housing, and she brought the family over to me," Sarkar said. "She leaned over the desk and looked me straight in the eyes and said, 'I just want a house that's actually a home and that will stop killing my kids.'"

David Fakunle, a Ph.D. candidate in mental health studies at the JHU Bloomberg School of Public Health, spoke about the importance of an individual person's gifts.

"Every single one of us is too valuable to the world to ever shortchange, to ever marginalize the gifts that we can bring to it," he said. "Because those gifts may have been exactly what the world has been waiting for."

Fakunle, who works at the Recovery and Community Center in Baltimore City, spoke about how he has used his own gift for traditional African storytelling to help others. He addressed the "Hopkins bubble," how students tend to remain on Homewood campus for the better part of their four years.

"For the next few years, you are all residents of Baltimore — so be active residents, citizens of Baltimore. Do not let the Hopkins bubble leave you here... Because, again, your gifts are way too valuable to the city," he said.

Co-curator Steve Park identified with this talk in particular and the idea of making full use of your gifts.

"I think it's a very relatable message to use our gifts as students of a world class institution to break the so called 'Hopkins bubble' and really get to know the city from the perspective of the residents," Park wrote.

Hayoung Park, a high school junior, enjoyed the event, feeling he could relate to the personal experiences shared.

"I like hearing different experiences. I think I'm a pretty eclectic person being born in Korea and moving here. I like hearing other unorthodox stories. I'm here for inspiration," he wrote.

Sophomore Aleena Nasir also liked the event, particularly the speakers.

"I really enjoyed the event. I thought all the speakers really embodied the theme of the event, 'Instructions Not Included.' I thought all the speakers were really empowering, and I thought they brought their personal experiences and connected it to like how they could help other people," she said.

Unrest in Turkey stirs up unease on campus

TURKEY, FROM A1

Turkish government had shipped weapons to opposition forces in Syria. Several members of the international community including the organizations Human Rights Watch and The Committee to Protect Journalists have criticized the restriction on freedom of the press due to these two incidents.

Freshman Teo Icliurek, who has family in Istanbul, noted the current political climate in Turkey has created an atmosphere in which terrorist attacks are not unexpected.

"Hearing of the attacks in Ankara, first of all, I wasn't particularly surprised. Ever since this past summer, when the Turkish airforce began carrying out attacks against both ISIS and the PKK, there has been a sense that such threats are imminent," Icliurek wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*.

Icliurek's first thoughts were of figuring out who orchestrated the attacks.

"There were three possible options before the government made any press releases about the culprits: Daesh, the PKK and the Turkish government. The third one is a conspiracy theory of sorts but not one that would surprise me if it were the case. With President Erdogan's power-grabbing antics, it could, objectively speaking, (though, I repeat, it is far-fetched) be an efficient way for him to consolidate more power," Icliurek wrote.

Senior Cinar Ark described his feelings after hearing about the attacks throughout the past month.

"It's always a numbing feeling, to be honest. Just up until last June, the trend of Turkey was actually going towards a very good place. I was happy with the [conditions] regarding my country — the political dynamics and so on — but there was a [terrorist] incident in July of 2015, and after that it's just been downhill, and it's been almost weekly nowadays I hear something either in my city, Istanbul, or the capital, Ankara," he said.

He described a function on Facebook that allows people to check in as "safe" and alert friends of their current status following an attack, called "Safety Check." Since most of his family and friends live in Istanbul, Ark utilizes this function frequently to make sure they are safe.

Ark also noted that Western media gives more attention to attacks in Paris and Brussels but he says he is not frustrated by it.

"We actually see the same response mechanism in Turkey. If a terror attack occurs in the western part of Turkey, it's always very big news but whenever it

occurs in the eastern part of Turkey, you don't get the same attention," he said. "Even though we complain about that disparity regarding location, we actually employ the same hypocrisy in our own country."

Ark stated the international community can show support for the victims of terror attacks by demonstrating they stand with them in the fight against terror.

On the other hand, freshman Aksel Kohen believes Westerners must do more to show their support through actions rather than words.

"While I wholeheartedly believe that we should provide continued emotional support to the victims of recent terrorist attacks in Belgium and Turkey, I take issue with 'praying,' an attitude that has trended in many social media outlets," Kohen wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*. "It passivizes us, keeping us from reflecting upon the political forces that have led up to these attacks. The best way to support the families of victims is to be engaged actors and thinkers who seek concrete actions to end these attacks. Unfortunately, our statements of support [have] not always come near achieving this end; They only provide us with the emotional comfort of having said something about these tragedies."

In regards to Turkey's obstruction of journalistic expression, Icliurek stated that freedom of the press does not truly exist in the country.

"Turkish freedom of press is a misnomer. There is no such thing at the moment. The takeover of Zaman comes not at all as a surprise to anyone who has been following Turkish politics before the most recent attacks in Istanbul and Ankara," Icliurek wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*. "This is all an attempt by the current President [Erdogan], as he is referred to sometimes in Turkey, to stifle opposition as he has done since he came to power earlier in the previous decade."

Ark similarly described the current state of freedom of press in Turkey as "despicable." He explained the current government has limited the scope of the media because they fear political opposition. Ark said he was in disbelief after the arrest of Can Dündar and Erdem Gül. However, he is hopeful they will not be convicted.

"Even though the president of Turkey [is opposed] to Can Dündar's release, I'm pretty sure they're not going to be imprisoned, even in this status quo. [Dündar] is quite possibly the best journalist in Turkey right now, and all of us will oppose... even the possibility of him getting convicted," he said.



YILDIZ YAZICIOGLU/CC-BY-SA-3.0
Turks mourn the victims of the March 13 Ankara Kizilay bombing.

NEWS & FEATURES

FSL director discusses new recruitment process, future plans



FILE PHOTO
Calvin Smith, Director of
Fraternity and Sorority Life

SMITH FROM A1

Calvin Smith: I believe my first year as the director of Fraternity and Sorority Life (FSL) is going very well, though it has certainly been challenging. Many of the challenges I anticipated when I accepted the job have occurred — particularly implementing organizational change. During the fall there was the release of the new Homewood Undergraduate Off-Campus Party Registration and Safety Policy, the Chapter Assessment Program and Hopkins Groups Registration Process.

Additionally, during the fall semester, FSL worked on several procedures to bring consistency, fairness and transparency to the way we operate on campus and define the relationship and partnership the University and the FSL community engage in. Those documents are called the Relationship Statement, the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life Social Procedures (leadership from each organization was trained on these standards in December and January) and the Hazing Acknowledgment form. We have also launched the “Chapter Conduct & Disciplinary Status” part of the FSL website. All of the information referenced above can be found on the Fraternity and Sorority Life website.

Other items we worked through during the President’s Council Meetings was a new GPA requirement and a standard length of time of initiating new members. We worked with chapter leadership and leadership from national offices to determine what the national standards are for both of these items. As one could imagine, these standards vary from council to council

and vary for all 22 of our chapters. We were tasked as an institution to come up with standards that would not be burdensome to our organizations, not adversely impact potential new members, and live within the academic mission of Johns Hopkins University.

After much consultation from all the parties involved we settled on a 2.5 GPA (uncovered) and a six week new member period. [Assistant Director of FSL Tara Fuller] and I are working through these changes with the leadership of the chapters and the community broadly. Of course, there are always challenges one could never anticipate, but for the most part I am happy with the community’s progress thus far.

N-L: Is there anything that you think stands out as challenging or exciting as a result of it being the first year?

CS: The members of our organizations are dedicated and when issues are brought to their attention, many groups are willing to face those issues head-on and begin to make adjustments. I am also excited about how far many of our groups have come since September. Working in Student Affairs is all about student development, specifically, working in FSL gives me the opportunity to work both with students individually as well as organizations more broadly. It is great to see chapters receptive to new ideas, best practices and fresh perspectives. It is always great to see groups apply the knowledge gained to their everyday operations to improve their chapters.

The biggest challenge that stands out to me is navigating the culture at Johns Hopkins. I believe in student and organizational development and its application to individuals and organizations. The difficulty comes when we challenge the norms that have existed over time. It is hard to convince anyone there is a better way to do something if they have never seen it done that way. It is a part of our ongoing mission to apply sound and proven practices while being sensitive to the cultural nuances of the community here.

N-L: Are any Greek organizations going to join

FSL in the coming years?

CS: That would be my hope, but for now we are closed to expansion of new fraternities and sororities. We have plenty of work to do with the groups we currently have, but in the future, working with the various councils and the campus community, we would absolutely be open to new organizations.

N-L: We have heard about the addition of a new sorority, is that true? If so, what does the timetable of its creation look like?

CS: I am not aware of a new sorority joining the community.

N-L: Given the lower number of freshmen who participated in sorority recruitment this year, why do you think that additional sororities could be necessary in the future?

CS: The numbers for recruitment were lower. However, recruitment numbers at Johns Hopkins often closely track with the size of the freshman class. When we have larger freshman classes we have larger recruitment classes. The opposite is also true.

Adding a new sorority has very little to do with the recruitment class numbers and more to do with chapter size. Right now Panhellenic has an average chapter size of 168. Of course there are many other factors to consider such as campus climate, student interest, etc., but we like to make sure chapters are at a manageable size. Within the field of fraternity and sorority life advisors the tipping point for chapter size is around 150 members. As you can see we have already surpassed that threshold.

N-L: What was the motivation behind changing the recruitment process this year? What differences do you expect? How do you think people reacted?

CS: The motivation behind changing the recruitment process was to align it with national best practices while taking the campus culture into consideration. These best practices have statistically proven to increase participant numbers over time as well as improve the experience for all of the stakeholders involved. We want to make sure the potential

new members are having a great experience, that we are encouraging the chapters to utilize values based recruitment techniques, and if the process works correctly, all potential new members will be placed with the chapters they want and the chapters that want them the most.

We expected to see our retention numbers for potential new members going through the process to increase from the beginning of the recruitment period to the end. We, in fact, did have a higher retention rate this year than we’ve had in the past several years.

Based on the surveys, we have collected from our potential new members, the chapters, the recruitment guides and the potential new members that dropped out of the process, the feedback has been very positive. They have cited that the process is more efficient and organized than in years past.

N-L: How does the presence of underground sororities and fraternities affect the official Greek life process? Do you think the dynamic is changing?

CS: The presence of underground organizations is never a scenario

any national organization or University wants. We want all of our groups to work in collaboration with the University and to do so in a healthy, safe and fun manner with integrity. Sometimes situations happen and organizations need to be removed from the campus environment for the overall health of the community. When this happens there can be residual effects from those decisions. My job is to educate our organizations on how to navigate those situations and to put the active chapters in a position to be the best option for any student that is interested in joining a fraternity or sorority.

Absolutely, I believe this dynamic is changing. Many times students don’t understand the unintended consequences of being affiliated with underground organizations or the resources, education, and training they are missing by being affiliated with an active group until the pledge process is complete. It is our job to make sure we promote this message as well as training and teaching active members why they should do the same.

N-L: How do you think that the general direction

of Greek life at Hopkins is progressing?

CS: I believe the general direction of fraternity and sorority life and Johns Hopkins is positive. Anytime there is a change of leadership, structure, and/or expectations, there are bound to be some issues. That is a natural consequence of change. Overall we are growing as a community and I expect that we will continue to improve.

N-L: What are you hoping to accomplish over the next year as Greek life director?

CS: Over the next year we want to continue to improve as an office, continue to educate our membership on how to manage and grow their respective chapters and continue to move to a self-governance model in which our organizations are handling issues that arise within the community. Additionally, we would like to see more large scale programming for the community. We want to make sure groups are achieving values congruent with their organization as well as Johns Hopkins University. We know there will be challenges in some areas, but Tara and I are ready to take the challenge head on.

Anti-Israel message sparks debate

SPEECH FROM A1

Shollenberger stated that the idea of drafting guidelines for the statue has been discussed within Student Affairs, but all suggestions have been inconclusive thus far.

“We started hearing occasional concerns about messages on the Blue Jay several months ago and have looked at guidelines used by some peer universities but not reached any decisions,” he wrote. “Our aim is to safeguard free expression and to encourage open dialogue and debate. We would consult with students and other stakeholders before moving forward with any guidelines.”

Larcia Premo, the Hopkins professor at the Center of Visual Arts who built the sculpture, discussed her creative process and her hope that even negative comments can generate interesting conversations across campus.

“I am not just a Hopkins teacher, but an alumna, so Hopkins, student life, campus issues, etc. are very dear to me. When I was commissioned to do the piece, the Blue Jay was clearly presented to me to be a bulletin ‘board’ for students that would take on a life of its own,” she wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*. “I am a firm believer in free speech. If the comments are out of line, then perhaps they will start productive dialogue or merely be painted over. Opinions, even repugnant ones do make our lives more interesting. It’s a price of freedom that, while I sometimes grit my teeth, am very willing to pay.”

Lionel Eisenberg, a Franco-Israeli international student, spoke about the messages on the statue that read “Pray for Paris” and “End Israeli Apartheid.”

“Basically one problem in America is that people are getting censored and people can’t say what they want to. Especially on campus, people get offended — which isn’t good because campuses should be somewhere that you expand your mind,” Eisen-

berg said. “I do think it’s nice to have something like [Pray for Paris] because it does show that people care. But to also give another example, I’m also Israeli. Even though the apartheid message was against what I believe in, I still think it’s something that should be said because of freedom of speech. People should have the opportunity to express themselves.”

Varadi expressed that while she believes in the importance of student expression on campus, she thinks that some guidelines should possibly be in place which curb profanities and obscenities.

“Our aim is to safeguard free expression and to encourage open dialogue and debate.”

— KEVIN SHOLLENBERGER, VICE PROVOST FOR STUDENT AFFAIRS

SHOLLENBERGER, VICE PROVOST FOR STUDENT AFFAIRS

Personally, I do not think that we should be censoring the statue in terms of the ideas that are expressed, but guidelines should be established for the wording that can be used, like profanities,” Varadi wrote.

Premo is optimistic that the Blue Jay sculpture, in all its positive promotion and negative controversy, can serve as an art piece that will generate more good than harm in the long-term.

“As long as no one is endangered, I am optimistic that open communication, however occasionally inappropriate or even idiotic, is a good thing,” Premo wrote. “It’s a learning place. There will be an ebb and flow of proud and shameful moments that the Blue Jay will experience. You hope for respect and I think you will usually find it.”

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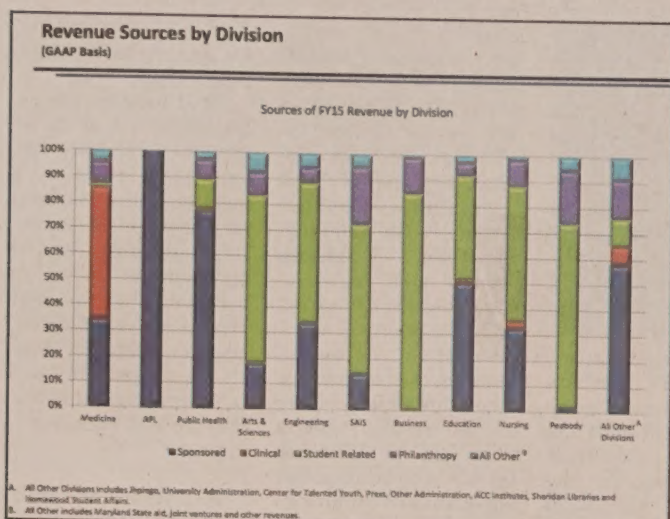
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NEWS & FEATURES

Unlike other top-ten schools, tuition funds over half of KSAS, WSE



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In the last fiscal year, funding for University divisions was broken down as shown above.

FINANCE, FROM A1

specific school. Harvard can therefore unilaterally use such funds to subsidize any school. The Harvard Faculty of Arts and Sciences, for example, pays for 50 percent of its budget through endowment funding. For KSAS and WSE, the number hovers between five and seven percent.

Hopkins receives restricted and unrestricted gifts, but most are first given to a specific school or department. Usually, donations are not collected centrally. Both KSAS and WSE employ a team of development officers who do the majority of fundraising for each school. The schools then accept the donations and put them into separate funds.

"It's put into a separate set of funds, and we basically get what we call the 'spendable income.' You

can think of it as a dividend or interest payment that is available to spend. They are invested in a series of funds that a family or an individual decide to give money for," Cronin said.

Difficulties can sometimes arise when an endowed gift has too many restrictive stipulations. These restrictions can make it difficult for Aumiller and Cronin to find faculty, students or programs to support using these gifts.

Associate Vice Provost for Development and Alumni Relations Rob Spiller and his colleagues in each school play a crucial role in helping to keep funds flexible.

"Our job really is to try to discuss with potential donors the need for unrestricted and flexible support, but we also work with the donors where we can to

in many cases — especially at the higher level gifts — about how we can accomplish their desires, their objectives and the needs of the schools."

Spiller formerly worked at Yale, a school that collects money centrally before distributing it.

"Yale is structured a little bit differently, where more money is raised in the center. But, here it's very decentralized in that sense," Spiller said. "Proportionally we raise a lot of money from the School of Medicine and through the hospital. Yale tends to get a higher proportion of their gifts from their alumni."

The University's decentralized financial structure is the reason why \$630 million of the University's \$3.4 billion endowment belongs to the Homewood schools. At Hopkins, each school must fund itself. For the most part, schools do not

direct their support to areas that are important to them and that they care about," Spiller said. "We are... the translator between what the donors want to achieve and what the needs of the University, or schools, are. It's a negotiation

share revenue or philanthropic funding. KSAS and WSE are exceptions. They share a portion of their respective revenues due to their shared resources, student body and proximity.

"The endowment is the key for most of the universities that we're competing against, and that's what sets us apart. The other piece that sets us apart, at least as an arts and sciences school, is that we have a model [where] all tuition for arts and sciences comes into arts and sciences. We have to cover all of our bills with what we bring in. Most of the other arts and sciences schools are usually subsidized significantly by business schools, law schools, other schools that tend to bring in more revenue," Cronin said.

The most recent budget for KSAS totaled \$350 million, while WSE totaled \$220 million.

Aumiller compared Hopkins to universities like the University of Maryland that centralize their revenue.

"Hopkins is a very bottom-up institution. [For] a lot of schools, like Maryland and others, the provost controls all of the revenue. All of the revenue goes to the president and the provost, and then we would have to go to them and say, 'We need \$150 million to run my school' and then justify it," he said.

The downside to this structure is that the Homewood schools cannot tap into the revenues of more profitable schools. The University's decentralization, however, does allow each school more flexibil-

ity and autonomy.

"At least at Hopkins we have the flexibility of being our own creative sources of generating other revenues at the bottom and getting to keep a lot of that money to be able to use in a very fungible way," Aumiller said. "If this year we wanted to put an emphasis on undergraduate research laboratories and fix them up, then we could make that decision."

With philanthropy comprising roughly five or seven percent of each school's budget, tuition is important to supporting the schools. Thirty-five percent of WSE's revenue comes from undergraduate tuition dollars, 12 percent from JHU-EP (Engineering for Professionals) or part-time Master's students, nine percent from Ph.D. tuition, nine percent from full-time Master's students, 30 percent from research and five percent from philanthropy.

In KSAS, Cronin cites similar numbers: 52 percent undergraduate tuition, 13 percent Ph.D. tuition, 10 percent from Advanced Academic Programs/Masters, 18 percent research and seven percent philanthropy. Comparatively, 23 percent of Harvard's arts and sciences school's budget comes from tuition.

Undergraduate tuition mostly funds programs that service students, Aumiller says. With 65 percent or more of Whiting's and Krieger's budget relying on undergraduate and graduate tuition, the tuition rate is crucial to each school.

"What's the tuition rate going to be for the next

year? That's a conversation between the president, the provosts, the deans, us," Aumiller said.

Cronin stressed that affordability and understanding the price the market can bear are both important to setting the tuition rate.

"When we look at our peer institutions, the piece that makes it really hard and challenging for us is that we have a much lower endowment than the people we typically compete against," he said. "There are some institutions that we compare to that literally would not have to charge a dime of tuition and could run their entire operation if they chose to."

Sponsored research also comprises another major segment of each school's budget. Cronin disclosed that research in KSAS mostly pays for itself.

"The research dollars that come in pay for research. If we didn't have the dollars then we wouldn't be spending that amount of money," he said.

Even though tuition and research fund the majority of the budget, philanthropy plays a crucial role to help the school do more than stay solvent.

Ed Schlesinger, Benjamin T. Rome Dean of the WSE, echoed Cronin's sentiment.

"This is a very lean university, in terms of the way it runs," he said. "When it comes to financial aid and scholarships, we are highly dependent on our alumni supporters, and a lot of students on this campus... are benefiting from the support we get from our alumni."



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The future of food shopping is scanners



Tara Abrishami
Food for Thought

Walking into **CHARMAYOU** grab some tomatoes off the shelf. You tuck a box of crackers under your arm. Maybe you pick up a drink before checking out. Such shopping is routine, but how much do you really know about what you bought? Are the tomatoes and crackers organic? You probably do know the answer to that one: Most organic foods have a label. Are the crackers made with genetically modified wheat? How far away were the tomatoes grown? How long have they been sitting on the shelf? How environmentally friendly is the tomato farm or the cracker producer? In all likelihood those questions never even crossed your mind.

There are loads of questions we should be asking about our food, and as consumers we have the right to the answers. For example: Genetically modified (GMO) foods should be labeled regardless of whether they are healthy, safe or distinguishable from their non-GMO counterparts. Many who oppose labeling genetically modified products don't want to scare people who might have undue fears of GMO food away. However more information is always better than less. Instead of keeping consumers in the dark, companies producing genetically modified products should focus on educating the public about genetically modified products, how they have been tested and why they are safe for consumption. Consumers have the right to choose what they buy. When it comes to food, that right is especially precious because this food goes into our bodies, affects our health and our well-being.

Though no state has yet to pass a law requiring the labeling of GMO foods, the consumer's right to choose is being promoted by members of the industry: Whole Foods Market has pledged to carry only labeled food products in their stores by 2018. This is a step in the right direction: We need more information about our food, far more information.

I came across an article describing a new scanning technology to analyze food. Apparently when such a scanner is complete, it will have the ability to return not only a nutritional breakdown of a product but also information like how long the product has been in storage, whether or not there are pesticide residues on

the product or even the presence of allergens like gluten and dairy in the product. The scanner will have the ability to scan through plastic wrap and other packing materials, which makes it usable on both produce and packaged foods. Though retailers like Target hope to use the scanners to provide higher-quality food and thus gain a competitive advantage, the scanners could also be developed for consumers as a tool to aid shopping.

With access to a wealth of such information, shopping can become less about what you eat and more about how you eat. Maybe your smartphone tells you that your crackers contain almost no nutritional content but were instead manufactured two years ago and stuffed with processed grains and artificial flavors. Then you might feel more inclined to go with locally grown baby carrots picked two days ago or hummus made from garbanzo beans, lemon juice from actual fresh lemons, tahini and garlic.

There are loads of questions we should be asking about our food, and we have the right to the answers.

Maybe once scanning technologies are developed they can also be used to scan for other kinds of information from a barcode on the products: Does the farm practice sustainable agriculture? Is your meat from a certified humane source? What was the livestock fed — genetically modified grains, scraps of old meat (even meat of their own type) or were they grass-fed — the healthier option for them and for us?

Scanning technology that increases consumer knowledge about food is something to get excited about. In the future our smartphones will deliver a neat little report detailing the specifics of a food product we might be considering. For now we still have to do the research the old-fashioned way, though perhaps not for long.



Gillian Lelchuk
Sophomoric

Today I'm going to tell you a story. Is this something you'll care about? Probably not. But I care. I care a lot. And I need the whole world to know my outrage.

It all started in February. I don't remember the date. I just know it was at least a month ago. A bunch of the student resource centers were having an open house in the Homewood Apartments lobby. This is where I live.

They set it up so you had to walk through the tables and say hello to representatives from the Office of LGBTQ+ Life, the Office of Multicultural Affairs and a few other ones that also have acronyms we're slightly familiar with. They were giving out cookies, flyers and other little freebies. I wasn't going to take anything because I was in a little bit of a hurry to get up to my room so I could go lie in bed for the rest of the day. But then I saw it.

A rainbow pen. Not just a regular black inked pen in a rainbow shell. No. This pen had rainbow

ink. Color-changing ink. You start out pink and then "bam" you're writing in purple. I needed this pen in my life desperately.

As a double-major in Writing Seminars and Mathematics, I do a lot of writing. I write stories that no one will ever see. I write out math problems on scratch paper before transcribing them neatly into my homework. Trust me I could use a rainbow pen.

I reached out to grab it off of the LGBTQ+ Life table, but the representative guarding these pens stopped me.

"You need to sign up for our mailing list before you can have one," she said.

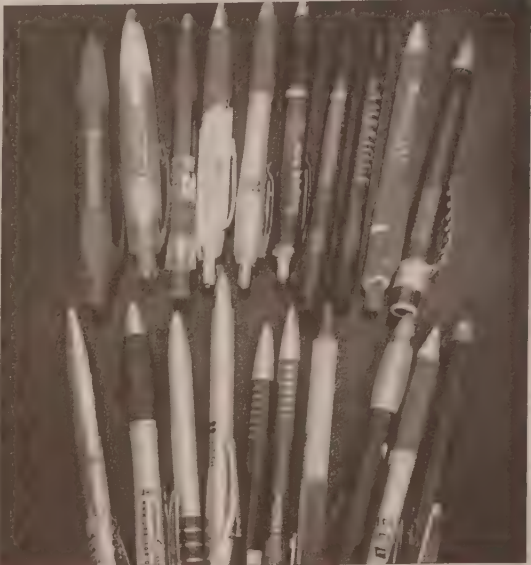
"I'm already on the mailing list," I said. This was not a thoughtful lie to avoid paying my dues for this pen. I am actually on the mailing list.

So she told me to go tell my friends to subscribe to the mailing list, and I nodded along with her and took the pen. Mission accomplished.

I loved that pen. I used that pen to write anything that wasn't going to be seen by a professor. I took notes with it. I annotated stories with it. I worked out math problems with it.

I quickly ran through all the colors: Pink to blue to purple, kind of skipped over the yellow, to orange to sort of greenish. And that was the end. No more rainbow pen.

So naturally I turned to the Internet to buy as many rainbow pens as



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I could have bought any number of pens, but I wanted rainbow ink.

I could. There was absolutely no way that I was going back to boring single-color pens. I found an excellent deal on LightintheBox.com — six rainbow pens for 89 cents. Shipping was 10-20 business days, but it would only cost me four cents. I ordered three of these. 18 pens in total for less than four dollars.

Over the course of the next month I agonized over these pens. What if they came over spring break? What if they didn't come until the end of April and I didn't get to use them for school? What if, what if, what if? I measured time in how long I'd been waiting for these pens. How many weeks left in the semester? Approximately two pen cycles.

Finally on Monday, March 21, the pens arrived. I retrieved my package from the Charles Commons Mailroom, and it was suspiciously small. It was about the length and width of a generic envelope for letters. I felt around and it seemed like there were only three pens inside. Oh no.

I took it home, opened it and my worst fears were realized. There were only three pens. Not 18. Three. I thought the company had made a mistake. They messed up my order. I went to the website to try to find a place to complain to.

Instead I found the true problem. The name of the product was "Six Colored Pens." Being the rational person I am, I assumed that meant I would get six pens in each order, adding up to 18 total. Now I saw that it meant I would get one pen with six colors. I was not getting the tremendous deal I thought I was.

But it wasn't entirely my fault. The picture on the product page had six pens in it. The wording was deliberately confusing. They were trying to trick me. And now I am sad with 15 fewer pens than I want.

That's it. That's the end of the story. The moral is not to trust anyone ever because they will just destroy your hopes and dreams and provide you with 15 fewer pens than you were expecting. Be careful, my friends.



MONICA RENATA/CC BY 2.0

The pens with color-changing ink have ruined me. I will never be able to return to single-colored pens.

What's the Word? This Week on Yik Yak

Has it dawned on anyone else that Kim Jong Un and Hillary Clinton have the same outfits? Especially the pants suits

61

17 HOURS 2 REPLIES SHARE

My motivation: in college now so that I can get a job to provide for my future dog.

97

1 DAY 1 REPLY SHARE

Okay, I think I've gotten a hold of this college thing now. Can I start over and do it for real this time??

104

2 DAYS 0 REPLIES SHARE

I used to be valedictorian, class president and the coolest kid in school. College is just so much harder than homeschool

203

1 DAY 0 REPLIES SHARE

HIP HOP

BUT ALSO observations, lists, thoughts, feelings, missed connections, haikus, confessions, furtive glances and of course, sex.

The man who was cuckoo for coconuts



We live in a time of tremendous diversity. Walking down St. Paul you can find American, Italian and Indian cuisine, and that's just at Tamber's. Throughout history this sort of access to culinary diversity has been rare. Historically most people just ate a couple of ingredients like potatoes or rice. Usually this sort of food austerity is a result of poverty. But sometimes there are people who voluntarily impose this monotony upon themselves. August Engelhardt was one of these people — and he was cuckoo for coconuts.

Born in Germany in 1875, August Engelhardt lived in the foreboding

years leading up to the catastrophic First World War. Except he didn't care at all about that. What Engelhardt did care about was living in accordance with nature. To him that meant nudism and vegetarianism. By vegetarianism, Engelhardt meant just eating coconuts. Only coconuts.

His theory was that coconuts grow high up in trees, making them closer to the sun and therefore to God. So by eating coconuts you become closer to God and also gain immortality on the side. This theory was coined "cocoivorism" and was described in a book he co-authored, titled *A Carefree Future: The New Gospel; Glimpse into the Depth and Distance for the Selection of Mankind, for the Reflection of All, for Consideration and Stimulation*.

This sort of behavior didn't go over well in Victorian-era Germany where nudism was pretty scandalous and eating only coconuts was just weird. (Also, coconuts didn't grow in Germany.) So in 1902 Engelhardt embarked on a voyage to the far-flung German colony of German New Guinea located in the



LUIS TAMAYO/CC-BY-SA-2.0
Engelhardt practiced vegetarianism, meaning he just ate coconuts.

South Pacific. Engelhardt showed up and bought a coconut and banana plantation from the Queen Emma Kolbe Forsayth Company and lived as the only white man among 40 or so Melanesians.

Note that this is the grand time of imperialism for Europe and the awful time of imperialism for the rest of the world. Usually Germans who went abroad were civil servants, military personnel or merchants. Engelhardt was a hairy nude who only ate coconuts.

A *New York Times* article from 1905 described Engelhardt's thoughts on going to German New Guinea.

"His plan was to have his sect worship the sun. He held that man was a tropical animal, not intended to live in caves called houses, but to wander, as Adam did, with the sun beating upon him all day and the dews of heaven for a mantle at night," the *Times* article wrote. "Living such a life, he believed that the healing and curative powers of the sun would in time render a man so immune that sickness could be overcome."

He wanted a coconut cult. It was to be a glorious utopian society where everyone lived in the nude,

didn't shave and ate coconuts for immortality. It was Sonnenorden (Order of the Sun). After sending reports back to Germany, Engelhardt managed to get people to leave their homes and join him. At its peak it was estimated that there were slightly less than 30 people living with him in German New Guinea.

It was not a very successful cult. Several people died, presumably from malnutrition, and many went back home to regret their life decisions. After these former cult members went back home, the local German governor banned any other prospective coconut-eaters from joining Engelhardt's cult.

So now Engelhardt was alone and his mind and body were starting to go. Doctors weighed him at 86 pounds with skin ulcers everywhere when he finally went to a hospital. He added onto his theories by proclaiming that the brain is the most important organ because it was physically higher up in the body and that the brain nourishes itself when rays of sun hit hair roots.

In 1919, August Engelhardt was found dead on the beach. He lived to just over 40 years old.



E. A. HURRY VIA WIKIMEDIA COMMONS
August Engelhardt's coconut-heavy diet was not exactly healthy.

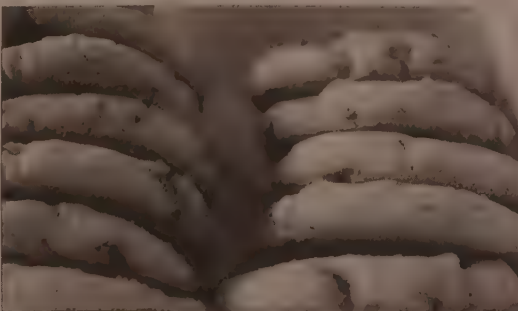
What to look forward to at Hopkins

- 1. Spring Fair, April 15-17**
Obviously you're looking forward to Spring Fair. From the concert to the blooming onions, what's not to love?
- 2. Alumni Weekend, April 8-10**
With plenty of school-sponsored activities and visiting alumni, this is sure to be a great weekend.
- 3. Last day of classes, April 29**
This seems like an obvious day to be excited for.
- 4. Class registration for Fall 2016, begins April 4**
Time to plan out your future! This is probably the time when we are the most excited for our classes.
- 5. Commencement, May 18**
A bittersweet day where we say good-bye to the graduating seniors, but then they get to go on to do bigger, better and more brilliant things with Johns Hopkins on their diplomas.

Quiz: Which Insomnia cookie should you eat right now?

- 1. How stressed are you today?**
 - a. I'm not stressed at all. I'm probably not even a Hopkins student.
 - b. I'm feeling it, but I'm doing alright.
 - c. Pretty stressed, I have so much to do.
 - d. I'M SO STRESSED PLEASE SEND HELP.
- 2. How adventurous are you?**
 - a. I've been bungee jumping and/or skydiving.
 - b. I've never bungee jumped or skydived but I'd like to.
 - c. I like to try new things but I do not want to jump off or out of something really high.
 - d. Change is scary and I don't need adventure in my life.
- 3. Are you a big spender?**
 - a. Hashtag treat yo self, all day everyday.
 - b. I'll splurge sometimes, but for the most part I keep track of my money.
 - c. I'm pretty frugal and I keep a budget.
 - d. I have exactly zero money.
- 4. Where do you see yourself in 20 years?**
 - a. I'll probably be the CEO of a Fortune 500 company.
 - b. I'll be living abroad and writing every day.
 - c. I don't know what I want to do, but it will probably have something to do with science.
 - d. I have no idea where I'll be tomorrow, let alone in two decades.
- 5. Do you cook for yourself?**
 - a. I try to cook as much as I can. I love making new recipes and doing everything myself.
 - b. I'll cook when I have the time but nothing super extravagant.
 - c. I'll cook once or twice a week but really I just make pasta.
 - d. Cook? I don't have time to cook. I eat out and I scavenge for food because cooking is another level of stress I do not need.

Results:
Mostly a's: You should get the S'mores cookie. It's a little pricier, but you're feeling adventurous today.
Mostly b's: You should get the Double Chocolate Mint cookie. It's worth it, even if it's a little out of your cookie comfort zone.
Mostly c's: You should get the Snickerdoodle cookie. Today you need your dorm room or apartment to smell like your kitchen at home.
Mostly d's: You should get the Chocolate Chunk cookie. Let's face it, it's been a rough day/week/month, and you need this cookie classic to lift you out of that funk. You deserve this.



SLICE OF CHIC/CC-BY-NC-ND-2.0
There's nothing like a chocolate chip cookie to brighten your day.

NEWS-LETTER

Editorial

Keep the Blue Jay statue expressive and guideline-free

Earlier this week, a message was painted on the Blue Jay statue outside of the FFC that said, “End Israeli apartheid.” The message has caused substantial controversy and has forced University officials to consider creating guidelines for painting the statue. The Editorial Board firmly believes that the creation and implementation of such guidelines is unnecessary and defeats the original purpose of the statue itself.

The statue serves as a monument to free speech and student expression — its function is to be a forum for ideas and a platform for conversation. As long as what’s written is legal, students should be able to paint whatever they want; this is the entire point of the statue. The notion that guidelines may serve to help the conversation is completely at odds with reality. University-mandated guidelines would necessarily be overly restrictive and would prevent the statue from fulfilling its purpose.

If students find what’s written on the statue to be offensive, they have every right and opportunity to paint over it with a message of their own. The purpose of the sculpture is to foster conversation, not to suppress it. Controversy is inevitable and disagreement is not only expected but also encouraged. As a community of thinkers, we don’t all need to agree with one another, we just need to have the capability to respectfully engage in a conversation. We need to learn how to politely attack ideas and not people, and we certainly don’t need

to be protected from beliefs that challenge our own. The Editorial Board’s position on Israeli apartheid is irrelevant; we are simply pro-conversation.

Moreover, we believe that while the University should only monitor the statue to ensure nothing illegal is being written, officials should paint over the statue regularly, wiping the slate clean and allowing for further discussion and artistic expression to continue. With a weekly paint-over, Jay the Blue Jay will be ready to bear the next controversy on his shield. Making the room for new ideas is what this statue is all about, and the University could facilitate this fluidity of ideas by simply painting Jay in a solid color at the beginning of each week.

However, we believe that that should be the extent of the University’s function as it pertains to the statue. We feel that Hopkins students are engaged enough to make this statue a place where important messages — political and otherwise — can be highlighted. We also believe that if changes need to be made to the statue and what can be written on its surface, those changes need to be thought of and approved by students. We are the ones who write the messages, and so if anything, we should be the ones in charge of discussing what can and cannot be written. Importantly, however, the Editorial Board strongly believes that the fewer guidelines there are in place, the better. Fewer restrictions mean more open discussion and honest and open discussion is precisely how we grow as thinkers.

Letter to the Editor

3/11 Issue: Pioneering women in Hopkins history

Dear Editors,

I want to commend your Editorial on 3/10/16, “Moments and milestones in the history of women at Hopkins.” Please let me clarify one paragraph, however. Several women were admitted as graduate students as early as 1877. Martha Carey Thomas attended for one year before leaving in frustration and eventually earning a PhD from the University of Zurich and then returning to the United States, where she became a founder of Bryn Mawr College.

Christine Ladd-Franklin was admitted in 1878 and completed her gradu-

ate program in 1882, but the Trustees refused to confer her degree, even though her work was described as “brilliant.” She eventually received her Hopkins PhD in 1926, at which time Sun columnist Anne Kinsolving observed, “Is Johns Hopkins University now conferring an honor upon Mrs. Christine Ladd-Franklin, or is Mrs. Christine Ladd-Franklin conferring an honor on Johns Hopkins University?”

Florence Bascom was admitted in 1892 and completed — and received — her degree in geology in 1893. She thus became the first woman to receive a Johns Hopkins degree,

but not the first to earn one. A few other women were admitted in arts and sciences in the late 1800s and early 1900s, but what they all had in common was a “champion” in the faculty or administration willing to argue on their behalf and enable these women to overcome formidable obstacles. The admission of women was on a case-by-case basis until 1907, when the Trustees agreed to allow “qualified” women to take graduate studies without special permission.

— James Stimpert, Senior Reference Archivist Special Collections at The Sheridan Libraries

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The *News-Letter* encourages letters to the editor and op-eds. The *Johns Hopkins News-Letter* reserves the sole right to edit all op-ed pieces and/or letters to the editor for space, grammar, clarity, accuracy and style. This applies to the body of the submission as well as its headline. Upon approval for publication, all op-eds and letters to the editor become property of *The News-Letter*. The *News-Letter* reserves the right to not publish any op-ed or letter to the editor for any reason, at the sole discretion of the Editors-in-Chief. Letters to the editor are limited to 250 words, must address content previously published in *The News-Letter*, and must include the author’s name, address and phone number. Letters must be received by 5 p.m. Monday for inclusion in that week’s issue; they should be sent to chiefs@jhnewsletter.com (with “Letter to the editor” in the subject line) or the mailing address below. To write an op-ed, contact opinions@jhnewsletter.com. Op-eds are not limited in their length except as available space may dictate. All submissions may be published online as well as in the paper, and no anonymous submissions will be accepted.

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NEWS-LETTER

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OPINIONS

Apple should have just broken open that iPhone

BY IAN GUSTAFSON

When the news media first started to report heavily on the standoff between the FBI and Apple over unlocking the San Bernardino shooter's phone, my first impulse was to think, "Why the hell wouldn't Apple unlock this scumbag's phone for a pressing terrorism investigation?" Now, after the government announced on Tuesday that an unnamed third party showed them a back door into the iPhone and they dropped their lawsuit against Apple, my original thought was vindicated — but with a host of new questions to answer.

One point that was mentioned but seemingly glossed over in the *New York Times*, *Washington Post* and *Wall Street Journal's* coverage since the FBI-Apple beef began earlier this year was the potentially time-sensitive information that could be on that phone. Obscured amidst the commentary about privacy and government overreach was the heart of the matter — that the phone could have contained names of co-conspirators or further deadly plans to be carried out.

While all the talking heads on television were yammering away and Tim Cook and Obama were trading verbal jabs, people who might have helped the Farooks with their plotting of the San Bernardino shooting that killed 14 people could have had ample time to flee the country. Or worse yet, they could have carried out follow-up attacks nearby, knowing their identities would not be revealed to the authorities until after a lengthy legal battle. One could reasonably argue, "Well, why would the attackers leave anything of value, on their phone anyway, especially the names of co-conspirators?" That's beside the point. The principle is what is at stake here.

If there's one thing the massacre in Brussels last week should show us, it's that in Europe and the United States, living on edge will be "the new normal," as *The Economist* put it this week. But the attack took place just a few days after one of the masterminds of the Paris attack, Salah Abdeslam, was captured in Brussels, and the heat was really starting to come down on the heavily Muslim neighborhoods there. Some have called the attacks retribution for Abdeslam's capture, and some have argued the terrorists moved up a planned attack before they were found by a security apparatus increasingly engaged in Brussels' Muslim areas. Either way, the tragedy reveals an astonishing flexibility and speed in the Islamic State's operatives.

If the Brussels terrorists could execute an attack with only a few days notice, we must assume that this is a universal capability of terrorist cells. Thus our counterterrorism and police forces should be afforded the tools to be at least equally as nimble as these groups that are by default a step ahead. If that means in some cases private companies or individuals have to cede some autonomy and privacy to an investigation, then so be it.

Whoa, pump the brakes there, right? I don't mean that Apple should have by law been compelled to unlock their incredibly important iPhone technology to the federal government for them to use in further criminal investigations. Apple and its various supporters have a perfectly valid argument that the U.S. government having this sort of back door into iPhones is a dangerous precedent and that it would open up the possibility of that sort of technology falling

into the wrong hands, which would be catastrophic.

However, I really don't understand how the national security imperative and public pressure to keep the country safe didn't compel Apple to let the FBI into this one phone. It is especially puzzling because Apple is not exactly on the cutting edge of cybersecurity for its industry. It is one of very few firms that deals with cloud data or cellular service that doesn't pay hackers to find flaws in its systems. And now that a third party has found a way into iPhones, I suspect Apple's security measures will fall under even more scrutiny. What began as Tim Cook's crusade for privacy and data security is turning into a fiasco. Apple neither protected its data nor complied with a national security investigation.

President Obama likes to cite the fact that more Americans die from falling in bathtubs than of terrorism. Yet this ignores the profound impact that terrorism has on our collective psyche and how successful terrorist attacks so undermine our confidence in government to maintain order. The day after Brussels I took the Metro to work in D.C. and was really kind of nervous about the prospect of an attack — I almost opted to take a cab instead. I knew this was deeply irrational, but there is something about the power of those images of wanton death and destruction after terrorist attacks that shake us to the core.

I sincerely hope Apple and other companies take recent events to heart and see the bad press about Apple as a sign that in these troubled times, national security concerns should be given more weight in their decision-making.

Ian Gustafson is a junior International Studies major from Woodridge, Ill.

Covered grades are a double-edged sword

BY SAMMY BHATIA

Collectively, I probably put in no more than 30 to 40 hours of real work over the course of first semester. In comparison, I drank 30 to 40 alcoholic beverages per week. I blew through my allowance for the semester well before Thanksgiving — mostly in Uber charges, Subway sandwiches and cash withdrawals — as my hobbies grew increasingly illicit. By Christmas, I forgot what it felt like to put pen to paper. My brain had spent the past three months marinating in its own sloth, ripened with "experiences," as I would call them, instead of with knowledge. At one point, my extended group of friends started to joke about who could achieve the lowest GPA while still passing all their courses. And let me tell you, I came close to winning that competition.

The privilege to attend college in America (and it really is, no matter how sick you are of hearing it, a privilege) comes with several implicit responsibilities. And of the many, the most important for your own sake is to perform well in school, which requires an astute and deliberate effort to balance free time with work. Self-discovery and emotional maturation are secondary.

Herein lies the beauty of covered grades. The policy guarantees that no freshman in their fall semester will receive letter grades and instead will either pass or fail the course. In other words, so long as you break the 70 percent mark, you are set, which essentially removes the aforementioned responsibility to perform well. Now instead of entering college with some regard for schoolwork, your focus shifts entirely to finding and bettering your social circle.

This is both good and bad. On one hand, covered grades allowed me to go out as many nights as I wanted to meet as many people as I wanted. I found my group of friends that

I love to death. I settled into my Hopkins career in the best way imaginable. Blah, blah, so on and so forth. My point is that this was indeed the administration's intended effect of the policy, and it worked: I blossomed into a sociable and content Jay, or whatever the hell it is we are supposed to be.

On the other hand, August marked an inevitably pronounced decline in my intellectual capabilities. I started off well and attended most of my classes and lectures until mid-to-late-September when I took my first batch of midterms and performed exceedingly well. Was I proud? Sure. Did I keep that momentum going? Absolutely not. From the day I moved in, I knew exactly how poorly I could perform and make it through the semester unscathed. If I played my cards right, I thought, I could scrape by with the bare minimum and still end up with a perfect transcript.

And so that's what I did. I barely, barely passed my classes through a series of caffeine-fueled all-nighters and notes taken solely from Wikipedia. I went out as much as possible and in that process, found out what it meant to wake up on the floor, to attempt to steal from UniMini, to vomit on Charles Street, to write an essay in an hour before it is due. These



LAURA BITTNER VIA FLIKR

were my "experiences."

The proverbial train hit me at the beginning of this semester, when I was finally and unequivocally normal. No longer did I expect or receive special treatment as a Hopkins student, and no longer was anyone concerned with how well I adjusted to the school. Papers were due when they were due, no matter how convincing of an "I'm sick" email I could forge. Drinking one night meant I would have to sit through the hangover in class instead of self-medicating.

Covered grades come at an expense. The institution itself is a blessing in every sense of the word — I probably would have considered transferring had I not had a chance to situate myself socially. However, it demands a certain level of unexpected maturity to be able to bounce back into the scheme of things, into how life at college actually works.

Sammy Bhatia is a freshman Writing Seminars major from Cranbury, N.J.

The fallacy of Clinton as the "pro-choice" candidate

BY EMELINE ARMITAGE

Although this is the first election in which I'm eligible to vote, I think I can say with confidence that this election has spawned the most memes. My Twitter and Facebook are flooded with Trump's hair, the bird that landed on Sanders' podium and Ted Cruz, a.k.a. the Zodiac Killer. A new species of meme has also landed on my social media: the Hillary Clinton the Feminist (TM) meme. Mainstream feminist accounts and publications share images of Clinton with captions such as "YAS QUEEN" and "SLAY QUEEN HILL." (The appropriation of black slang is a different but important conversation.)

I have been disappointed in mainstream feminism and pro-choice communities in the United States. Clinton has been labeled the pro-choice feminist candidate without much mainstream discussion as to the appropriateness of these labels. I argue that labeling Clinton the pro-choice candidate is misguided and ignores a huge part of her political career. (For the record, obviously Clinton would be better for reproductive rights in the U.S. than any Republican candidate. I'm just arguing the labels that are used to describe her politics [mainly by liberals] are misguided.)

Clinton does support reproductive and abortion rights — but for whom? For U.S. citizens, but what about the other people's lives she's had a major impact on: undocumented people and the people of any country in which

the U.S. has intervened in the past 20 years. Clinton was Secretary of State for four years and has had an enormous impact on the lives of women across the world during her political career. Failing to interrogate this part of her politics is a huge failure by mainstream feminism and pro-choice activism. When we look at Clinton's entire career and impact, the "pro-choice" label quickly falls apart.

Hillary Clinton and her husband have been heavily involved in Haitian aid and intervention,

cal violation. These sterilization programs in Haiti were cloaked in mainstream feminist empowerment rhetoric that ignored the unethical coercion and imperialism implicit in the programs. A 1994 Counterpunch report titled "Sterile Hopes" states that "cut through all the reassuring lingo about 'empowering women'... and the fundamental goal of the American government is to keep the natives from breeding." I could find no comment from Hillary Clinton apologizing for, addressing or even acknowledging the Haitian sterilization controversy.

Let us not let our critical thinking take a backseat to "Queen Hillary" memes.

Similarly, Hillary Clinton and her husband in the 1990s were supportive of Alberto Fujimori's presidency in Peru. Under Fujimori's administration (1990-2000) more than 270,000 Peruvian women were sterilized against their will. I also could not find any comment from Clinton about her support of the Fujimori regime. More recently during her term as Secretary of State, Clinton supported the horrendous 2009 Honduran coup d'état and supported the Hernández administration, which has been responsible for the murder of activists. Al-Jazeera reports that after the coup, the Honduran murder rate spiked by 50 percent and femicide in particular skyrocketed. The Hernández adminis-

tration has also been horrible for reproductive and abortion rights, especially during the current Zika virus crisis. Again, I could find no substantial comment from Clinton, which is as much a condemnation of her as well as mainstream journalists for not pressing her on the issue.

When we extol Hillary Clinton for being "feminist" or "pro-choice" we forget (or consciously ignore) the millions of women being denied basic reproductive rights because of Clinton's policies. Reporting on Clinton as the "pro-choice" candidate is cloaked in female-empowerment rhetoric, much like the disastrous Haitian sterilization programs were. I implore my fellow feminists to take a broader, more inclusive view of what "pro-choice" means. Yes, pro-choice means supporting U.S. abortion rights and Planned Parenthood — but it also means decrying the forced sterilization of Haitian and Peruvian women, the wholesale murder of female activists, and remembering women outside of our immediate communities who are affected by U.S. imperialist policies. Hopefully we can cut through the mainstream rhetoric and criticize "feminist" politicians without being drowned out by shallow shouts of empowerment and girl power. Let us not let our critical thinking take a backseat to "Queen Hillary" memes.

Emeline Armitage is a sophomore International Studies major from Cleveland.

PHOTO ESSAY



THE B SECTION

YOUR WEEKEND • ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT • CARTOONS, ETC. • SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY • SPORTS

MARCH 31, 2016



Arts & Entertainment

Temps d'Afrique has its first showcase — B3

The President's Reading Series: Marilynne Robinson — B3

The long awaited *Batman v Superman* falls flat — B4

Science & Technology

Scientists discover a potential cure for HIV — B7

Researchers create a self-healing material — B7

Get ready to bust the myths surrounding autism — B9

Sports

Dev's Corner takes on the Duke lacrosse scandal — B10

Athlete of the Week features tennis player Megumi Chen — B11

M. Lax crushed by the University of Virginia — B12

YOUR WEEKEND MAR. 31-APR. 3

Events in Baltimore this weekend

Thursday

Everything Will Be Okay The Crown, 8:30 p.m.

Everything Will Be Okay is a series of stand-up comedy shows at the Crown. It will feature several local comics including host Chris Hudson. The show is \$5 and there also will be a free dance party in the Crown's second performance space happening concurrently. Check both events out!

Friday

Open Beats with Llamadon Collective Mondawmin Mall, 3 p.m.

This multi-sensory interactive installation will allow participants to make improvisational music and see it visualized via projections. The event will also include Llamadon members making beats live for one hour (starting at 4 p.m.) and inviting audience members to freestyle over them as well as live performances and DJ sets in the evening.

"Dark City" by LabBodies Penn Station Plaza, 5 p.m.

This is the first installation of a two-part exhibitions exploring light in Station North — gas lamps from 200 years ago, the media spotlight surrounding Freddie Gray's death, etc. There will be a performance at 7 p.m.

Illuminate Light City The Crown, 9 p.m.

If you're kicking around Station North because of earlier events or just looking for a laid back (but certainly still hype) evening, the Crown is having a Light City after party. It will feature '90s hip-hop favorites.

Saturday

"Uncool" by Wickerham & Lomax Terrault Contemporary, 7 p.m.

Terrault Contemporary will be hosting an opening reception for the second installation of the exhibition mentioned above. Check out lighthappenings.com for more information on the collaborative project.

What Weekly's Light City After Party Mosaic Nightclub and Lounge, 9 p.m.

For only \$5 (with a student ID) you can gain entry to Mosaic, a popular club in Power Plant Live. The event, which will feature local DJs and drink specials, is 21+.

Brutal, man: Celebrating McKeldin fountain



A. CURRELL VIA FLICKR/CC-BY-2.0

The McKeldin fountain and plaza is one of many landmarks located in the Inner Harbor and was instrumental in the Occupy Baltimore movement.

By **VERONICA REARDON**
Your Weekend Columnist

McKeldin fountain has been a part of Baltimore since its completion in 1982. A prime example of Brutalist design, it has been the site of Baltimorean gatherings and protests along with many people's lunch hours and explorations of the city.

In 2015, the city began to solidify plans to demolish the fountain, located at the corner of Light and Pratt Streets, and continue developing the Inner Harbor area. This movement is in part a response to many cities changing their harbor areas to mimic Baltimore's — Baltimore is trying to stay unique. Plans for the new area include an installment

of native plants and a water-wall.

There has been dissent about the new project as with any type of development or city policy change. Some have criticized the decision, especially for the lack of transparency surrounding the firm hired for the new development. Others have concerns about how the development is being funded, and they are worried about how much Baltimore citizens would have to pay for it. Either way, the plan is moving forward, and McKeldin fountain is going to be demolished.

Baltimore dance company Fluid Movement is putting on a show at the fountain tonight and on Saturday night in honor of the fountain. It is a free performance which will

last 15 minutes and feature an all-female cast! The show will also feature sets by artists such as Katherine Fahey & Annie Howe, Papercuts, Lynn Tomilson and Colette Searls, Big Whimsy, Olu Butterfly and the DewMore Baltimore, Revolutionary Motion, 901 Arts, Schroeder Cherry, Single Carrot Theatre, Creative Alliance and Thick Air Studios. The show itself is called HydroPrismEchoChamber.

Fluid Movement is known for putting on a water ballet that got very good reviews and advocating for a swimmable harbor. They also promote community involvement and understanding as well as a love for Baltimore through their work. Fluid Movement will also occasionally set up pop-up theaters for the com-

munity to enjoy.

Other events going on this week include the Hopkins Film Festival, a Night Climb at the Hopkins climbing wall and the Baltimore Square Dance at the Ideal Arts Space in Hampden. The Square Dance and perhaps the Night Climb are going to be my personal choices; I may try to get to the fountain as well. The Night Climb is going to have a pretty sweet raffle and a lot of glow sticks, so it will definitely be worth attending. It's also free and you get to stay in the Rec Center after it closes (wooo!). The Film Fest is a reliably good time.

Happy weekend when it finally comes everybody! It always looks bleak from the beginning of the week, but there's a lot of fun stuff coming

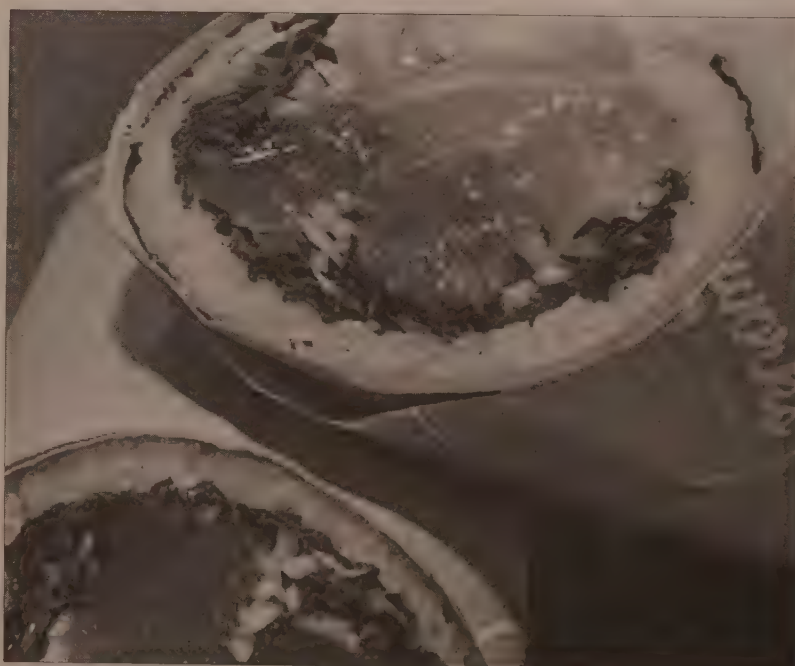
Viral poke restaurant doesn't live up to hype

By **ALISON BARTOWSKI**
Your Weekend Columnist

Lately my Facebook newsfeed has become crowded with various food-related videos that either show you how to cook and bake food or depict various new creations at restaurants that have taken Instagram by storm. Insider Food is a page that showcases the latter. I recently watched a video about the "sushi burrito" in New York City from Pokeworks, which had over 30 million views. I took a trip to New York last weekend and decided to try the place out for myself. (No, I did not go there just to eat this burrito.)

I've never actually managed to try one of the famed places featured on this page so I was really excited. I had also been craving a good bowl of poke, which is a Hawaiian dish that consists of raw tuna over rice or salad. I'm from Los Angeles and poke and sushi burritos have been around for quite some time, so I'm relatively familiar with how they should taste.

Well, I was expecting somewhat of a wait but once I got to Pokeworks there were two separate roped-off waiting areas where customers stood outside in the cold. It took a solid hour before I was let into the store, so of course, once I finally was able to order (after another



COURTESY OF ALISON BARTOWSKI

The author ordered a poke "burrito" stuffed with seafood and avocado, among other ingredients.

30 minutes), I shamelessly got not only a burrito but a bowl of poke as well... All for myself. I stacked my bowl and burrito with tuna, salmon, cucumber, avocado, onions, masago, fake crab and garlic chips. The sauce I picked was Sriracha aioli, which is just a fancy way of saying spicy mayo. Some of the toppings offered were definitely non-traditional or at least not something I had seen before on poke, like mango chunks and edamame. The addition of avocado was a disappointing \$1.50 extra just like at Chipotle.

After I finally fin-

ished paying, there was no space to sit and eat at this hole-in-a-wall restaurant. I had to smuggle my food into McDonalds and low-key eat it on the second floor. Clearly by this point I was really hungry because I had been waiting in line so long for this food. So the first bite was rather anticlimactic. Similar to a normal burrito at Chipotle, a downfall is that the ingredients aren't mixed together well so you get a bite of only crab or avocado and little-to-no fish and then only fish in the next. Back home there are way better places to get regular and more

authentic poke where I don't have to wait more than five minutes. So the verdict about the sushi burrito and poke at Pokeworks is that it's pretty average and definitely not worth the one and a half hour wait.

To be honest, you're better off just getting a sushi burrito here in Baltimore. In fact, Shoyou Sushi in Federal Hill has a delicious sushi burrito, and Sticky Rice in Fell's Point is always a safe bet for sushi and drinks with an American flare. (They also serve buckets of tater tots — literal buckets.)

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Temps d'Afrique celebrates five years of dance



IVANA SU/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

The Year of the Beat showcase featured several Hopkins dance groups in Shriver Hall on Saturday night.

By ANNE HOLLMULLER
For *The News-Letter*

Temps d'Afrique (TDA), an African dance team at Hopkins, presented Year of the Beat at Shriver Hall on Saturday night. Year of the Beat, the group's first solo showcase, was a joyful celebration of five years of performing as an independent student group. The group began as a part of the African Students Association as ASA Dance and was officially recognized as an independent student group in 2011.

The event was free and open to both Hopkins students and the public and showcased TDA's past, present and future. Their collaboration with other Hopkins dance groups infused many African dance styles into the performance, which emphasized the spread of African culture throughout the world.

Temps D'Afrique created a series of psychedelic and high-tech visuals for the showcase. During three of the dances, the group performed in front of colorful, futuristic projections. A Creative Use of Technology Grant from the Digital Media Center (DMC) that allows Hopkins students to explore human interaction with technology allowed the group to get a power-

ful projector system that projected these designs upon the back wall of the stage during the performance.

On the event's Facebook page, the members of TDA shared their pride at five years of energetic performances and team bonding. The group also posted profiles and quotes from members of the dance group, sharing why they enjoy being a part of TDA and how it has impacted their lives at Hopkins. Each member also spoke about why they were excited to perform on Saturday and wrote of the hard work that they put into the performance.

One of the group's two captains, senior Ohemaa Kwakye, shared why she felt Year of the Beat would be a can't-miss experience.

"It's our first independent dance showcase and we are ready to burn Shriver's stage. Everyone deserves to experience the high energy and versatility we are bringing to stage, on our own and with our collaborating and guest performers," she wrote on the page.

Senior Marlene Kanmogne, the team's co-captain, described her immense pride in her team, African dance and the show itself.

"This show was the culmination of months of hard work by an extremely dedicated team;

a team I could not be more proud of. We hoped to showcase the beauty of African dance, as well as pay homage to both the diversity and unity of the African Diaspora," Kanmogne wrote in an email to *The News-Letter*. "People often ask me why, even after graduating, I still give so much of my time and effort to this team. The simple answer is that we are family, and you do everything for your family."

One of the members of TDA, sophomore Colette Aroh, described on the event's Facebook page why she enjoys being a member of the dance team.

"TDA isn't just a team, it's a family. From my strong and intelligent aunties and uncles

who offer advice on life, classes and Hopkins to my energetic and hilarious little brothers and sisters, I've found the group of people who I will carry in my heart for the rest of my life," she said in a quote on the Facebook page.

The show began with an introduction that included clips from some of TDA's first performances and testimonials from the group's alumni. TDA's first dance of the night featured choreography from the early years of the group as a tribute to their anniversary.

Les Hommes D'Afrique, a small, all-male group from Towson University's African Diaspora Club, performed next. After this performance, contemporary and jazz group Jaywalk Dance Group came onstage.

After the intermission, VIVAZ Performing Arts Company, a Caribbean dance group, performed next in a lively collaboration. Slam, a hip-hop dance group, nearly filled the stage with their numerous dancers. Eruption Step Team, a newly-created dance group at Hopkins, performed a lively, intricately choreographed step routine that was followed by a joint performance between TDA and ¡Baila!, a Latin dance team.

Author reads from acclaimed novels

By ANEKA RATNAYAKE
For *The News-Letter*

Marilynne Robinson, an award-winning American author, held a reading as a part of the President's Reading Series: Literature of Social Import this past Thursday. This event was held in the large lecture hall of Hodson and included a reception and book signing after.

Robinson was born and grew up in Standpoint, Idaho. She received a B.A. from Pembroke College, Brown University's former women's college, and a Ph.D. in English from the University of Washington in 1977. She currently teaches at the esteemed University of Iowa Writers' Workshop and lives in Iowa City.

She has written four acclaimed novels, *Housekeeping*, *Gilead*, *Home* and, most recently, *Lila*. Her first novel, *Housekeeping*, which was focused on three generations of women, was written in 1980. The rest of her work was written more recently, with *Lila* released in 2014.

She has won several awards for her work including the Pulitzer Prize and the National Humanities Medal, awarded to her by Presi-

dent Obama in 2012. When awarding her this prize, Obama commented on "her grace and intelligence in writing."

At Thursday's reading, Robinson read from two of her novels, *Lila* and *Gilead*. Both of these novels are a part of the Gilead trilogy, which centers on the life of the Reverend John Ames who lives in Gilead, Iowa.

Though *Gilead* was published first, the novels are not in chronological order. *Gilead* is a fictional autobiography of the Reverend as he reflects upon his life after discovering that he is dying of a heart condition. *Lila*, on the other hand, focuses on the blossoming of the Reverend's relationship with a drifter woman named Lila.

Robinson carefully chose sections from both novels to read. From *Lila*, she first read a passage about the Reverend visiting Lila as she's weighing her decision to marry him. Robinson read the scene softly, truly accentuating the musical, flowing nature of her writing.

She mirrored this pensive tone in her reading of *Gilead*, where she also chose an critical scene. In her reading from *Gilead*, she focused on an interaction

SEE AUTHOR, PAGE B5

Spike Lee: director, activist, artist, visionary

By SARAH SCHREIB and DUBRAY KINNEY
Arts & Entertainment Editors

The University recently announced that Spike Lee will be the commencement speaker this May. While many members of the Hopkins community may have heard of the Academy Award nominated director or even seen one of his films, there are many who are not familiar with his life, his work and the impact he has had on the film industry and issues of social justice.

Born in Atlanta in 1957, Lee spent most of his childhood in Brooklyn with his father, a jazz musician, and his mother, a schoolteacher. He attended Morehouse College in Atlanta and the Tisch School of the Arts graduate film program in New York.

Lee has been involved in a variety of roles in the film industry including writing, directing, producing, editing and acting. He began his career in the '70s with short films like *Last Hustle in Brooklyn* and made-for-tv movies like *Horn of Plenty*. Since then he has released an average of one film per year up until his most recent film in 2015, *Chi-Raq*. Lee has also done a number of documentaries, including the Laker-centric *Kobe Doin' Work* and *When The Levies Broke: A Requiem in Four Acts*, which centers around Hurricane Katrina.

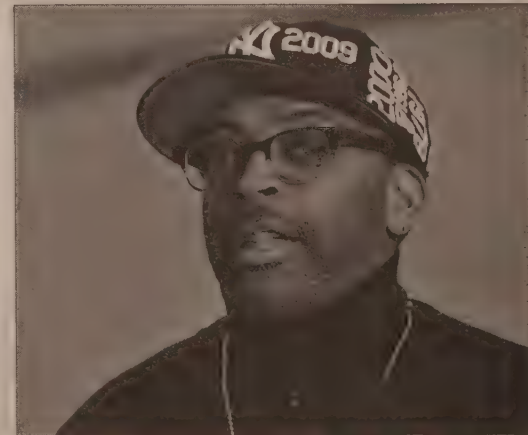
His first feature film, *She's Gotta Have It*, which tells the story of Nola Darling (Tracy Camilla

Johns) and her three lovers, was released in 1986. While this film was recognized at the Cannes Film Festival and the Independent Spirit Awards, it was not until the 1989 release of *Do the Right Thing* that he was recognized by the Academy Awards, receiving nominations for both Lee's screenplay and Danny Aiello's supporting role as Salvatore "Sal" Fragione. *Do the Right Thing* tells the story of a rise in racial tensions in a black neighborhood when Sal decorates a Wall of Fame in his pizzeria featuring solely Italian-Americans.

Do the Right Thing featured one of the major themes that would come to define Lee's cinematic work: racial inequality. Before graduation arrives on May 18, it is essential for seniors, if not the entire Hopkins community, to view the Spike Lee films that have defined a great deal of discourse around issues of race, identity and inequality.

Spike Lee's golden age is generally regarded to have occurred between 1988 and 1992. Although he's released films since that period, they are often regarded with much less acclaim than the films from that period.

His 1988 film *School Daze* is regarded as one of the better portrayals (not to mention one of the few) of education at a historically black university. The film is part musical and focuses on the juxtaposition between Laurence Fishburne's (*The Matrix*,



JOSE CRUZ/CC-BY-3.0-BR

Spike Lee is an award-winning African-American film director.

Black-ish) Vaughn "Dap" Dunlap and his social justice against the partying, fraternity lifestyle of Julian Eaves, played by Giancarlo Esposito (*Breaking Bad*).

He followed this with the 1990s classic *Mo' Better Blues* that features Denzel Washington (*The Equalizer*, *Training Day*) as the gifted jazz trumpeter, Bleek, as he struggles with drug abuse, women and the battle between mainstream appeal versus staying true to one's artistic values.

Bleek competes against his own standards as well as those of Shadow, another member of his band who quickly becomes his rival due to his tendency to cater more to mainstream tastes.

One of the most essential films to consider viewing is 1991's *Jungle Fever* starring Wesley Snipes and Annabelle Sciorra (*The Hand That Rocks the Cradle*, *The Sopranos*). The film features the depiction of an interracial relationship in New York as well

as the societal pressures placed upon those in the relationship. The film also features commentary on family relationships and drug abuse.

Lee reconnected with Washington in 1992 for the biopic *Malcolm X*, featuring Washington as the titular civil rights leader. The film served as a turning point for Washington, resulting in him becoming nominated for the Academy Award for Best Actor through the sheer strength of his portrayal of Malcolm. Other great films by Lee include *Crooklyn*, *Inside Man*, *25th Hour* and *Miracle at St. Anna*.

Lee's influence on the film scene blazed a trail that many of his contemporaries follow. Though his most recent films have lost the steam of his older work, Lee remains an influential director and voice in the African-American community. He's seen his share of controversy, but he's also one of the more important artistic minds of the past generation.

Documentary brings humanity to uprisings

By WILL KIRSCH
Staff Writer

On Thursday, March 23, the Program for the Study of Women, Gender and Sexuality at Hopkins hosted director Malaika Aminata for a screening and discussion of her 2015 documentary *Not About a Riot*. The film follows the events of the Baltimore Uprising, specifically between April 23 and May 1. The movie was shot by Aminata, a Morgan State University graduate and Baltimore resident, and was developed and produced independently by the director and others. As the title implies, the documentary avoids any depictions of the violence that occurred during this time period. Instead, Aminata's film directs its attention to peaceful demonstrations, non-violent protests, impromptu

concerts and artistic gatherings. Music features prominently in the film, especially in an extended scene dedicated to a small rap show set in front of a row house.

The director filmed throughout Baltimore, conducting interviews with residents and recording images of the recovering city. Aminata's film is advertised as "the story the media didn't show." This tagline is a reference to the press's focus on the violence that occurred during the day of April 25 and the night of April 28 in 2015.

The movie is shot with a handheld camera, often from within crowds of protesters or during protest events. Aminata personally interviews a number of Baltimoreans who express both sympathy and anger towards

SEE UPRISING, PAGE B4

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Batman v Superman: Dawn of mediocrity



Tim Freborg
Flashframe Film
Reviews

I've been following the development of *Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice* for quite some time, and, admittedly, I have been rather wary of it from the start. The sequel to Zack Snyder's incredibly underwhelming film *Man of Steel* (2013), *Batman v Superman* promises action, thrill and ultimate resolution of the longest standing childhood playground debates.

However, to say that reception for the film's production has been mixed would be an understatement. From seemingly odd casting decisions to character and plot oversaturation to accusations of DC trying to shamelessly copy the Marvel formula, suffice it to say, audiences, particularly longtime fans, seemed to be on the fence prior to the film's release.

It's easy to see why. Trying to juggle a huge number of pop culture juggernauts, *Batman v Superman* is an ambitious film, to say the least.

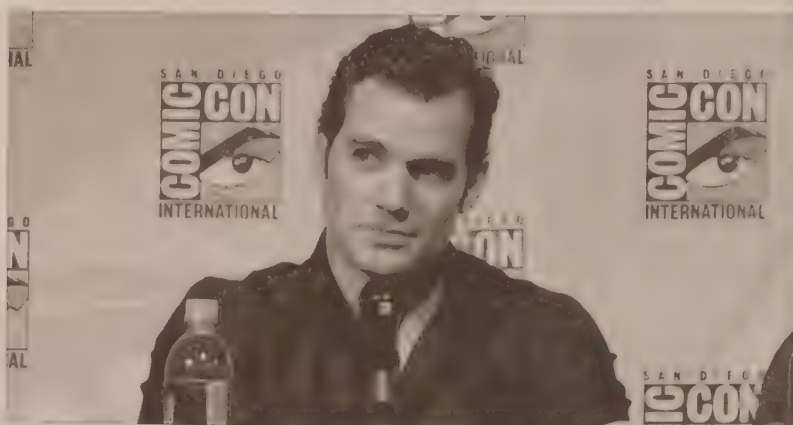
For better or worse, Batman, Superman and Wonder Woman are so widely recognized and understood they can easily be considered modern cultural icons. Of course, Snyder's newest film was going to be contending with high expectations, preconceived notions and wariness. The question is how well the film copes with this precarious position.

Well, it doesn't completely crash and burn, although that's really all that can be said.

The film opens with a brief recap of the final, city-shattering battle from the conclusion of *Man of Steel*, albeit from a somewhat different perspective. It then cuts to more than a year later when the world still hasn't fully come to terms with what it means for a being like Superman (Henry Cavill) to walk among people.

Some view him as an alien menace, deserving of expulsion, while others see him as a savior, a hero or even godlike. In the former group are Bruce Wayne (Ben Affleck), owner of Waynecorp and secretly the masked vigilante Batman, and Alexander Luthor (Jesse Eisenberg), owner of Lexcorp who seeks to use salvaged Kryptonian technology for his own purposes.

The situation between



Henry Cavill renews his role as Superman in the follow-up to his previous film *Man of Steel* (2013).

the two heroes rapidly deteriorates as Luthor's data and actions drive the pair to blows. Yet, even as they fight, an even greater threat looms on the horizon, one that may take more than the Man of Steel or the Caped Crusader to confront.

Plot-wise, the film is very formulaic and exactly what one might expect from a film in which two well-known heroes come to blows. Ideological differences and clever manipulation force their hands, and they fight before the real threat reveals itself. The film is even so bold as to tell the majority of the story in its trailer. At the very least, audiences will know what to expect.

To start off on the positives of the film, it does admittedly have some of the best choreographed cinematic action sequences I have ever seen. From its titular fight to all the other conflicts scattered throughout, every scene where the film's heroes are doing what they do best is expertly crafted.

Every thrown punch, obliterating laser and rev of an engine packs a high-octane punch sure to get the audience's hearts racing with excitement. In fact, viewed solely as an action movie with superhero fights, explosions and all that good stuff, the film holds up astoundingly well. Of course, we would expect nothing less from the director of *300*. In these instances, the action stands at the forefront while a simplistic story serves more as the backdrop and can be relatively forgivable.

However, Snyder has eschewed such ideas of a simple story for one that is instead dark, extremely rushed and more over-complicated than it has any right to be.

Despite having a solid foundation to build on from *Man of Steel*, *Batman*

v Superman unfortunately introduces so many new characters and plot points that none of them is given nearly enough time to incubate.

Character motivations are established at a break-neck pace (assuming they are at all), making them feel flimsy at best and nonexistent at worst. Characters react in out-of-character ways, clearly for the sake of inciting more drama and

ushering in a new action sequence.

Furthermore, from a character standpoint, there is a huge inequality among the cast in terms of character portrayal and development. Some characters

like the titular Batman are given an impressive amount of screen time yet very little in the way of growth or meaningful development (although admittedly, with a performance as impressive as it is frightening, Affleck plays the Dark Knight to perfection). Other characters like Gal Gadot's Wonder Woman

are criminally underutilized. Her case is especially egregious because her character and performance are definitely the breakout moments of the film.

Unfortunately this problem of underdevelopment never really lets up, even in the film's third act. I can safely say the ending of this film, while necessary to an extent, is an absolute waste from a storytelling perspective. So many interesting and excellent developments simply fly in and fly right back out, making for a highly unsatisfying conclusion.

That really is *Batman v Superman's* biggest flaw: so many good ideas, interesting twists and developmental possibilities are thrown into the mix but simply tossed aside. No matter how good the fights are or how interesting the characters may or may not be, the fact remains it is left to be a film with an impressive amount of flash but very little real substance.

While its flash and expertly crafted high-octane action definitely make it an enjoyable film, I cannot in good conscience call it a good movie. So, while I can recommend giving *Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice* a watch, I cannot give it a seal of quality. Perhaps it is the film we deserve but not the one we need.

Overall Rating: 4/10

BATMAN V SUPERMAN

Starring: Ben Affleck, Henry Cavill, Jesse Eisenberg
Director: Zack Snyder
Run Time: 213 min.
Rating: PG-13
Now Playing: Senator Theatre, Landmark Theaters, Cinema Towson and XD

Film creates discourse around art, injustice

UPRISING, FROM B3
the protests. Those shown in the movie, both anonymous protesters and personal subjects, represent a variety of racial and cultural backgrounds. In general, the film tends to follow a group of Aminata's roommates and friends, some of whom helped her produce the movie.

As the film focuses on Baltimore and its people, it pays tribute to the city. The credits open with the phrase "Starring: Baltimore," referencing the many active and passive participants in the movie.

After the close of the film, Aminata addressed the audience and answered questions. During her talk, Aminata spoke about herself and her life in Baltimore as well as some aspects of her filmmaking process. A Georgia native, she studied journalism at Morgan State University. While her major was print journalism, Aminata said she had a camera and liked to "capture life" through this medium.

She noted the documentary grew out of her attending a protest with her camera and filming her surroundings. While the documentary was not originally a planned project, it arose from her interest in filming the events going on in the city.

Aminata also explained she was organizing her own protest at the time. She

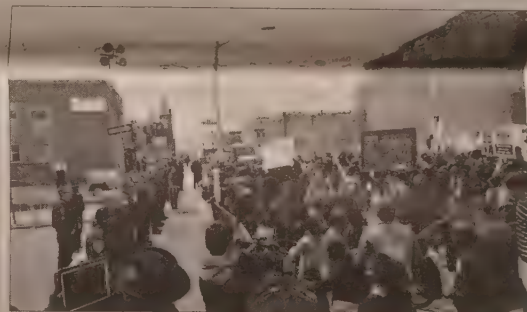
described the event, which is featured in the film, as "art activism." According to Aminata, her activities organizing the art activism rally took her throughout the city, which contributed to the production of the film.

Aminata, in response to a question from the audience, said the first showing of the film was in fact an informal screening at the 2015 Artscape, the annual Baltimore arts event. The film was shown with the help of local artistic collective Luminous Intervention, which Aminata is currently a member of. The group projects messages, often activist ones, in public spaces.

Aminata said the first "official" screening was at the Baltimore artistic space EMP as part of the in-house A/V Cart series. The space is managed by a local group called the EMP Collective, a non-profit that promotes the arts.

Aminata also spoke of the importance of screening the film in an effort to bring people together and create a dialogue surrounding social and political change.

When asked about her inspiration for the film, the director said she felt as though filming was not a choice as much as it was a necessity. She also spoke of the importance of art as a tool of inclusion which can voice a variety of perspectives.



VEGGIES/CC BY-SA 3.0

Protesters in Baltimore have spoken out against racial injustice.

Cartoonist to give lecture at Mattin Center

By MIA CAPOBIANCO
Your Weekend Editor

Making his first visit to Hopkins since 1999, cartoonist Ben Katchor will give an illustrated lecture entitled "*Hand-Drying in America and Other Stories*: Picture-recitations from 18 years of comic-strips about architecture and urban design from *Metropolis Magazine*" on April 4. The lecture, which will take place in the Mattin Center, is co-sponsored by the Center for Visual Arts and Homewood Arts Programs.

Craig Hankin, the director for the Center of the Visual Arts, expressed eagerness about bringing Katchor back to Hopkins.

"We co-sponsored his first visit to Hopkins back in 1999," Hankin said. "He gave a great talk. He's also a bit of a performer."

Hankin also noted he believes a majority of the talk will be comprised of Katchor discussing his current strip in *Metropolis Magazine*.

Katchor is a name familiar for those interested in illustration,

cartooning and graphic novels — any medium that uses image diegetically. He has long since mastered the art of the comic strip.

He has received a great deal of attention including an extensive profile in *The New Yorker* in 1993 after creating the character Julius Knipl in 1988 for his weekly column in *The New York Press*.

The cult comic strip, entitled "Julius Knipl, Real Estate Developer," still runs in various weekly newspapers. It follows Knipl through the fictionalized and eccentric streets of New York City, where he encounters niche small businesses and outlandish characters, all of which come and go within the span of one strip. Katchor spins an unabashedly fictional and surreal world but fills it with details and particularities that recall an older New York City — one full of small businesses, a working class and a sense of locality.

To label Katchor's work as simply nostalgic or bizarre would be inaccurate. His work is ex-

tremely dense, nuanced and poetic. Because of the themes Katchor takes on in the Knipl strip as well as later cartoons and graphic novels, his work can be read as social activism.

His cartoons have diverse subject matter; from agriculture to architecture to complex socioeconomic conditions. Katchor has described his own work as Jewish, American and socialist. While these traditions are evident in his cartoons, each series requires substantial unpacking.

In addition to three volumes of "Julius Knipl, Real Estate Developer strips," Katchor has published several other graphic novels and collections of cartoons including *The Jew of New York* (1998), *The Cardboard Valise* (2011) and *Hand-Drying in America: And Other Stories* (2013). The latter title is an anthology of strips he has been creating for the back page of *Metropolis Magazine* each month since 1998.

Katchor's works have won various awards and accolades throughout the years. He was granted a

Guggenheim Fellowship in 1995 and a MacArthur Foundation Fellowship in 2000. More recently, *Hand-Drying in America: And Other Stories* made "Best Of" lists for both *Time Magazine* and NPR in 2013.

In addition to his many cartoon strips and graphic novels, Katchor has written several works of musical theater in collaboration with American musician Mark Mulcahy. He currently directs the illustration program at Parsons School of Design and The New School in New York City.

Katchor is also involved in theater, an art form he describes as more "luxurious" than the comic strip and has written a number plays. He is currently working on an opera.

Katchor's upcoming talk is free and open to the public. He commented on the nature of giving presentations like these to audiences.

"I think different people will take away different things," he said. "It's always a mystery presenting things to other people."



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Ben Affleck stars as Batman in *Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice*.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Father's latest album is anxious, reflective

By DUBRAY KINNEY
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Last Friday, eccentric rapper Father released his latest album, *I'm A Piece of Sh*t*. Father releases music via his collective label Awful Records that features artists similar to himself.

His rap career stands in parallel to the rest of his local scene in Atlanta in the way that it is almost entirely opposite to most of the popular rap that has been dropping. With his 2014 debut *pretty boy satan*, Father made a strong statement with the weird party mix that he produced. This release formed the base for Awful Records, which includes other underground hip-hop artists like Archibald Slim, Abra, Richposlim and Slug Christ.

In 2014, Father and Awful Records had a breakout year with his song "Look At Wrist" proving to be his first real hit. The song featured an addictive chorus and potent verses from not only Father, but ILoveMakonnen and Key! as well. "Look at Wrist" was later featured on Father's *Young Hot Ebony*, an album that managed to introduce his laid-back, counterculture style to a wider audience.

In 2015, he released *Who's Gonna Get F**ked First?*, a further look into the weirder side of Atlanta hip-hop. The album featured songs that proved to be funny such as "Everybody In the Club Gettin Shot". It also included dreamy production over more reflective

lyrics, which can be seen in "Slow Dance (Interlude)".

*I'm A Piece of Sh*t* stands as a particularly strange release in the artist's discography. In the lead up to the album, he mentioned that he was going through a streak of depression and using both painkillers and antidepressants. Thus, the confidence of his former releases are there but are undercut with realistic expectations. There is an apparent sadness in this album. In a way, this element is what makes it so attractive.

There's also the general hyper-sexual vibe that any Father release contains. It doesn't shy away from the more X-rated details.

As always, the production of the album is a strong suit, showing Father's varied and eccentric style with a dark, brooding selection of beats.

The album's mood is seen with the opening track, "Why Don't U," which features Abra and ILoveMakonnen. The track is pulled together with Abra's hook, which features sexual moaning and the repeated mantra of "Why don't you love me daddy?". Though it seems shallow at first glance, once listeners get to the heart of Father's verse in which he



SWIMFINFAN/CC-BY-SA-2.0
Atlanta's ILoveMakonnen is frequently featured on Father's third album.

attempts to hit on a girl, the end result is counter to most rap songs. A few lines into his flirting, she asks him why he consistently takes Xanax.

"Cuz I fell in love with the stupor / Percocets keeping me lucid / Blackouts they give me excuses," Father raps.

This is an introspective moment that most rappers would not partake in. It makes the song an open experience while also flipping the expectations of what has been a pretty standard rap song up until that point.

This song touches on another theme that continuously appears throughout the album: finding true love as opposed to fleeting affairs. This comes up on another highlight of the album *Party on Me* that also touches on the differences between one-night stands and true emotional connection in relationships.

The track features Ethereal and has a catchy hook by ILoveMakonnen that harkens back to some of the highlights of Father's previous releases such as "Nokia" or "Look at Wrist".

"I got caller ID / And I don't pick up if it ain't the guala callin' me /

Flip phone Nokia," Father sings in "Nokia."

"Spit Or Swallow" is another strong track featuring the '90s-esque R&B stylings of Awful Records's Micah Freeman. After his hook, the drums come into the beat much harder, leading to a slightly more energetic Father verse that results in a catchy banger and stylish send-up to the R&B rap of the '90s.

*I'm A Piece of Sh*t* is a strong album, especially when you consider the rate at which Father is releasing music. However, what sets it apart from most other releases is the vulnerable feeling that it elicits.

However, the album is held back by a few filler songs such as "Girl Fantasy 2". The song features an introduction by female rapper Tommy Genesis and feels off-tempo from the rest of the album's vibe. It is laid-back, but in a way that is distinctively different from the rest of the album.

This same vulnerability is what helped set apart some of the strongest albums of the past decade like *good kid M.A.A.D City*, *My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy* and *Sir Lucious Left Foot: the Son of Chico Dusty* to name a few. This isn't to say *I'm A Piece of Sh*t* is the best rap album that has come out this year, but it sets a solid benchmark for the midpoint of a year in music that is still trying to find its shape.

Red Emma's hosts youth poetry slam

By MARCIA ZIMMERMAN
For The News-Letter

On Sunday, March 27, Red Emma's Bookstore Coffeehouse hosted the annual Baltimore Citywide Youth Poetry Team Grand Slam along with Dew More Baltimore, an organization that strives to increase community engagement in the Baltimore area through youth programming, art and community organizing. The organization currently has programs in 46 schools in the Baltimore area.

In the first round, 12 poets performed. In the second round, eight poets performed. After that, the top six poets received the opportunity to represent Baltimore in the Brave New Voices International Youth Poetry Slam Festival in Washington, D.C. in July.

These young poets were judged by five esteemed judges: Linda Joy Burke, Bashi Rose, Alain Ginsberg, Anthony Moll and Olu-funmike Woods. Burke received the 2002 Distinguished Black Marylander Award for Art from Towson University's Office of Diversity, was a 2004 Coca Cola Company/NFAA Distinguished Teacher in the Arts nominee and received the 2004 Poetry for the People Baltimore Legacy Award. Since 2007, Rose has facilitated Direct Responses Alleviate Misdirected Aggression (D.R.A.M.A.), a prison theatre program, at the Maryland Correctional Training Center in Hagerstown, Md. He received an Open Society Institute fellowship to expand D.R.A.M.A in 2012. In addition, Rose works with Dancing Many Drums (DMD), a cultural art youth program that explores the African Diaspora.

The community atmosphere in Red Emma's was evident. The room was packed with clusters of people mingling and catching up.

One audience member at the event, Benjamin Jancewicz, the founder of a design agency in Baltimore called Zerflin.com, commented on the nature of the Baltimore arts and poetry scene.

"Everybody knows each other. We were all hanging out last night because there was another event," Jancewicz said. "There is great intersectionality between the poetry and protest movements. A lot of young people have individual thoughts that they express through poetry, and when different people in the community hear that, they connect the young poets with others in the poetry world. This Baltimore poetry community is much less cutthroat. It's more about people helping each other."

Due to this vibrant community, the audience was lively in their involvement and responses to performers. Before poets began performing, the audience would yell "go in, poet," or "don't be nice," and someone would respond with a resound-

ing "be nasty."

Victor Rodgers of Dew More Baltimore, aka Slangston Hughes, was the MC for the night and urged people to respond to a line that moved their soul the way chocolate does with a satisfied "mmm." He also advised the judges to judge the poets based on whether they could "meditate in the air".

Rodgers also commented on the specificity of Baltimore, noting that while Baltimore happens to be in Maryland, the two are on different planets entirely. This comment seemed to inform the tone of the poems spoken that night as poets touched on themes of racial injustice, religion, Baltimore's protest movements, love and parents.

The winners of the Grand Slam were Mohamed Tall (the Grand Slam Champion), Mecca Verdell, Blue Bird, Grim Jackson, Deniero Bell and Krae L.C.

During Tall's performances, people in the audience rapped right along with him, further deepening the sense of community and support for one another. Some of the lines that stood out from his first poem were: "the future of the city ain't cherry blossom pretty," and "Bill's bills built prisons."

Tall, a member of the Baltimore Citywide Youth Poetry Team, gave a powerful performance that received a great deal of support from the crowd. For his second poem, Tall put his hands up and repeated, "I got a target on my body, somebody, please protect me." This gesture received a standing ovation each time he did it.

It seemed as though Tall was able to leverage either a personal connection or a sense of empathy and anger in each audience member. With his poems, Tall invoked the sentiments of the protests in Baltimore and the injustice they are fighting against.

Mecca Verdell, another winner of the night, also sparked rousing responses from the audience with her words. Some of her most powerful lines included: "He burns the silver spoons he wasn't born with" and "I want to be an architect, building poems with stones from hitting rock bottom."

Sadia Bashir wrote a poem to a Princeton student who made a comment about African Americans contributing nothing to society, with lines like "Obama as the leader of the free world isn't affirmative action, it's bringing the world back to its satisfaction."

Hannah Sawyerr, the 2016 Baltimore Youth Poet Laureate and an alum of the Baltimore Citywide Youth Poetry Team, was the featured guest performer. The first poem she performed was about being a first generation American while maintaining her heritage. Another poem talked about revenge on her abuser.



UTOKS/CC BY 3.0
Rapper Big Boi's album *Sir Lucious Left Foot* evoked vulnerability.

Robinson shares thoughts on writing, religion

AUTHOR, FROM B3
between the Reverend and the son of another reverend who has left the town in disgrace.

Though the readings were generally very reflective, there were moments of humour. These lighter moments were as equally appreciated by the audience as the more serious elements of Robinson's writing.

One audience member, sophomore Holly Tice, commented about the event and Robinson's work.

"I decided to come to the event after reading *Lila*," she said. "That book basically changed my life, and it was so incredible to hear Robinson's thoughts on it."

Another student present at the reading, junior Katie Dwyer, expressed her excitement in hearing the author read from her popular novels.

"It was such a thrill to hear Marilynne Robinson

read her work," Dwyer said.

This sentiment appeared consistent across the audience. The lecture hall, which can seat about 400 people, was nearly full, and the audience listened intently. Both the reading and the response period afterwards were well-received by the diverse audience.

This event was free and open to both members and visitors of the Hopkins community. From students to professors, there was a wide range of people present, making the event very popular.

The reading was followed by a question and answer period in which audience members questioned Robinson on a variety of topics from theology to the underlying subtleties in her writing to the lives of her characters.

One audience member

also asked about Robinson's two meetings with President Obama, to which she replied with a number of compliments about his manners and his presidency.

While this event closes

the President's Reading Series, there are still many graduate student readings presented as a part of the Tudor & Stuart Reading Series on Wednesdays at 7 p.m. in Krieger 205.

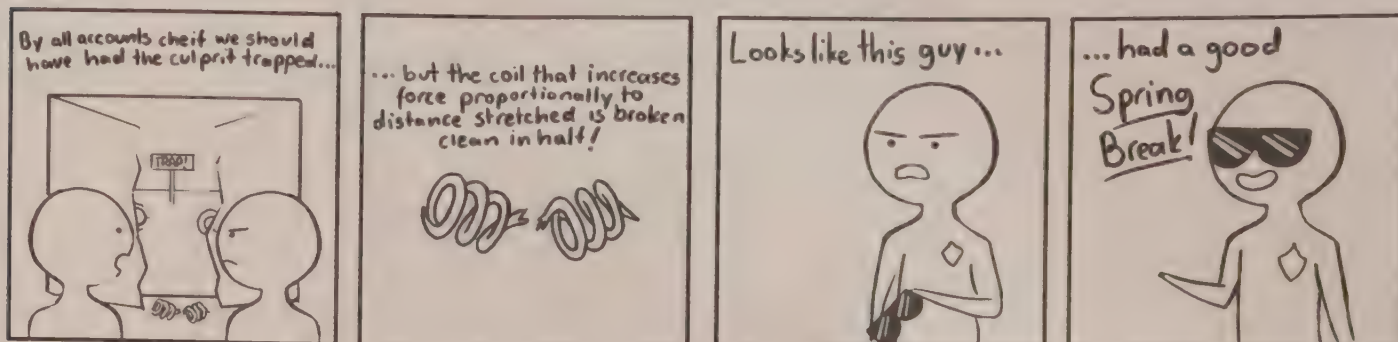


CHRISTIAN SCOTT HEINEN BELL/CCO 1.0
Marilynne Robinson read from two of her novels in Hodson Hall.

CARTOONS, ETC.

Spring Break!

By Erica Schwarz



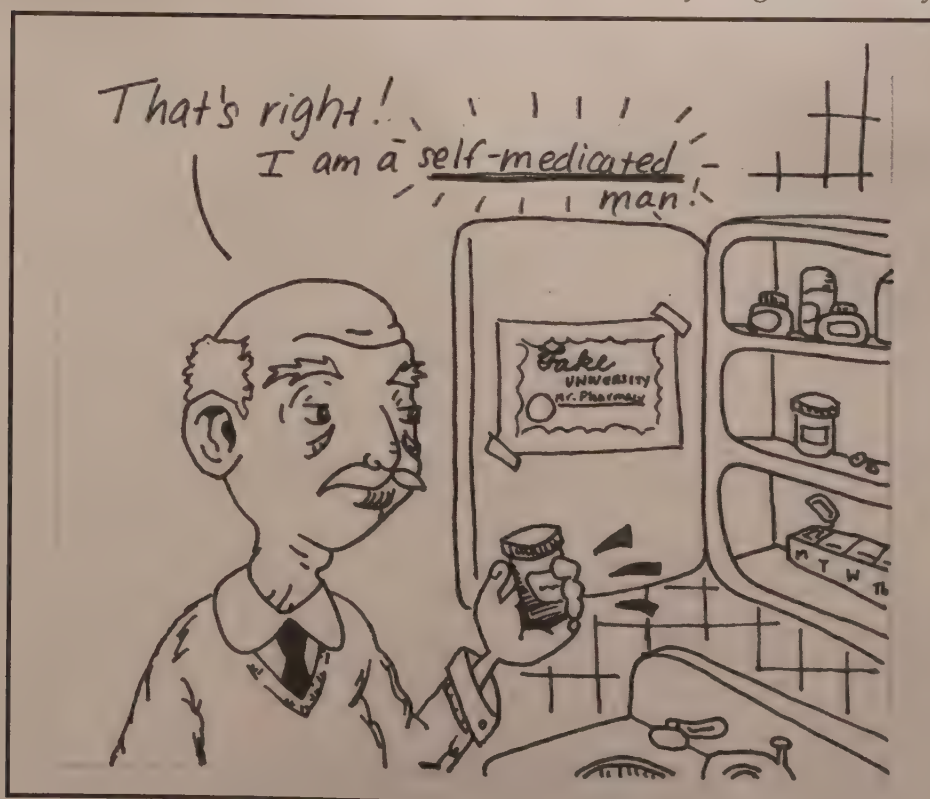
Grave Humor

By Stephanie Herrera



Science!

By Megan Donnelly



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SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Researchers create a self-healing material

By **FERNANDO VICENTE**
For *The News-Letter*

A recent discovery showed that seemingly rigid natural materials can be highly adaptable. For instance, bone, a stiff material that is commonly thought to be non-malleable, can remodel itself after facing stress. The sea cucumber, which recycles nutrients in marine ecosystems, can reversibly and rapidly increase the stiffness of its leathery skin.

Researchers at Cornell University's Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering recently grew interested in emulating these properties by creating synthetic materials with real-world applications.

Professors Meredith Silberstein and Rob Shepherd set out to reproduce a composite material with six of these properties: reversible stiffness, the ability to undergo 200 percent strain stretch under heat,

memory of shape after deformation, non-automatic and heat-triggered self-healing, assembly into larger continuous structures from smaller sub-components and strengthening along the primary axis of deformation after morphing.

"It's sort of like us — we have a skeleton, plus soft muscles and skin," Shepherd said in a press release. "Unfortunately, that skeleton limits our ability to change shape — unlike an octopus, which does not have a skeleton."

The scientists assembled a bicontinuous product by fabricating a silicone elastomer with metal pores composed of an alloy of indium, tin and bismuth. At temperatures below 62°C, the composite was a stiff metal. On the other hand, once above this temperature threshold, the metal would melt and the elastic, and the adaptable properties of

SEE MATERIAL, PAGE B9

Hormones underlie human eating behavior

By **REGINA PALATINI**
Senior Staff Writer

Obesity has more than doubled worldwide since 1980. Currently, about 600 million people are considered obese and about two billion individuals are considered overweight. The factors that have caused this explosion are debatable, with evolving food trends, economic stressors and changes in the built environment ranking among the front-runners in terms of explaining the rise in obesity.

In recent years, research on obesity and overeating has ramped up, and scientists are gaining a more thorough understanding of what drives our eating habits.

Obesity occurs when our intake of energy from the food we consume exceeds our energy expenditure. Our food consumption is regulated by survival and reward, our pleasure senses (taste and smell) and demands from our body's metabolism.

Cynthia Sass reported in *Shape* magazine that researchers in Italy have identified a specific type of pleasure-driven eating that they call hedonic eating. In a small study involving eight subjects, scientists found that eating for gratification, rather than for physiological hunger, triggers the release of hormones that increase appetite and therefore stimulate continued eating, even after physical satiety has been reached. In the study, blood levels of hunger hormones surged after



DANIEL MALECK LEWY/CC-BY-SA-3.0

Individuals' decisions to eat are governed not only by conscious decisions but also by their hormones.

eating cakes, but not after eating bread, butter or milk. While the connection isn't completely understood, the hormonal reaction seems to occur with foods that are tied more closely to emotional, rather than physical hunger.

Recently researchers from the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine have discovered, while studying the learning and memory system of the brain, a new type of nerve cell that appears to control feeding behaviors in mice. Their findings were published in the March 18, 2016 issue of *Science*.

"When the type of brain cell we discovered fires and sends off signals, our laboratory mice stop eating soon after," Rich-

ard Huganir, director of the Department of Neuroscience at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, said in a press release.

Huganir explains that his team's discovery was a result of work on the proteins that strengthen and weaken the synapses between brain cells. Synapse strength is important in learning and memory and is an active research topic.

As part of their original research on synapse strength, Huganir and graduate student Olof Lagerlöf studied the enzyme O-linked N-acetylglucosamine transferase (OGT). The role of OGT is to add a molecule of N-acetylglucosamine to proteins, which alters the target protein's behavior.

To learn about the role of OGT in learning and

memory in the brain, which was his original area of interest, Lagerlöf deleted the gene that codes for it. Prior to examining the brain effect, he noticed that within the first three weeks the mice doubled in weight by building up their fat reserves. After careful observation of the eating habits of the mice, the researchers concluded that the absence of OGT interfered with the animals' ability to sense that they were full.

"These mice don't understand that they've had enough food, so they keep eating," Lagerlöf said in a press release.

This was not the first study to highlight a neurological mechanism behind eating behavior. In 2015, researchers at the Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School

SEE EATING, PAGE B8



MAXIM GAVRILYUK/CC-BY-SA-3.0

The researchers were inspired by rigid, yet flexible, sea cucumbers.

Scientists discover a potential cure for HIV

By **SABRINA CHEN**
Staff Writer

Scientists working at the Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University recently uncovered a possible new cure for HIV-positive patients that involves a specialized gene editing system, which has safely eliminated the virus from the DNA of human cells grown in culture.

The study, published online in the journal *Scientific Reports*, was headed by Kamel Khalili, Laura H. Carnell Professor and Chair of the Department of Neuroscience, Director of the Center for Neurovirology and Director of the Comprehensive NeuroAIDS Center at Temple University.

HIV stands for human immunodeficiency virus. Untreated HIV can eventually lead to acquired

immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS). Thus far, there is no method to completely rid the human body of HIV once one acquires the virus. HIV specifically attacks the body's immune system and the CD4 cells (T cells) that help the immune system fight off infections. HIV can reduce the number of CD4 cells, which makes a patient more likely to get infections or infection-related cancers.

Since it was first discovered in the 1980s, HIV/AIDS has resulted in more than 25 million deaths, and curing this disease has been the primary goal of thousands of researchers across the globe.

The current treatment for controlling HIV infection involves the consumption of antiretroviral drugs. If antiretroviral drugs are taken the right way, every day,

these medicines can dramatically prolong HIV-positive patients' lives. However, patients on antiretroviral therapy who stop taking the drugs experience a rebound in the replication of HIV; Thus, the treatment is not sustainable. Eventually, the presence of numerous copies of HIV will weaken the immune system and cause AIDS.

"Antiretroviral drugs are very good at controlling HIV infection. But patients on antiretroviral therapy who stop taking the drugs suffer a rapid rebound in HIV replication," Khalili said in a press release.

Though HIV research has focused primarily on the treatment rather than the elimination of the virus, recently there has been a drive to stimulate a robust immune response that could remove the virus from cells. Thus far, none of these approaches has worked.

Dr. Khalili's team has tried a different strategy: targeting HIV-1 proviral DNA using gene editing. More specifically, the team worked with a system that locates the HIV-1 DNA in the T cell genome, and a nuclease enzyme that can cut strands of T cell DNA. The nuclease is used to edit out the HIV-1 DNA sequence, and the loose ends of the genome are subsequently recombined by the DNA repair machinery in the cell.

In their most recent study, Dr. Khalili and colleagues proved that the technology can not only eliminate the virus from cells but can also protect cells against reinfections and reduce the viral load in patients' cells.

Another part of their study examines off-target effects and toxicity. Utilizing the ultra-deep-whole-genome sequencing mechanism, the researchers were able to analyze the specific genomes of HIV-1-eradicated cells for gene mutations, even in genes that are outside the regions that the guide RNA targets. These studies were used to prove that the HIV-eradicated cells could function normally.

"The findings are important on multiple levels," Dr. Khalili said. "They demonstrate the effectiveness of our gene editing system in eliminating HIV from the DNA of CD4 T cells and, by introducing mutations into the viral genome, permanently inactivating its replication. Further, they show that the system can protect cells from reinfection and that the technology is safe for the cells, with no toxic effects."

"These experiments had not been performed previously to this extent," he added. "But the questions they address are critical, and the results allow us to move ahead with this technology."

Apple unveils iPhone SE at spring event

By **SCOTT ZHENG**
For *The News-Letter*

Following Apple's traditional spring product event, which was held on March 21, the iPhone SE captured headlines.

Recently, smartphone screens have been getting larger, especially among Apple's biggest competitors like Samsung, HTC and LG. Apple has tried to imitate this trend, beginning with its release of the iPhone 6, with a 4.7-inch screen, and the iPhone 6 Plus, with a 5.5-inch screen, in 2014.

The iPhone SE is Apple's attempt to fill the smartphone market's gap in smaller phones. However, although the SE has only a four-inch screen, Apple has reassured its buyers that they need not worry about the phone's capabilities. According to Apple, the new phone will be just as fast and powerful as the iPhone 6.

"It's the most powerful four-inch phone ever created," Tim Cook, CEO of Apple, said.

Not only is the iPhone SE smaller than the iPhone 6, but it is also cheaper, starting at \$399, in comparison to the \$549

price tag of the iPhone 6.

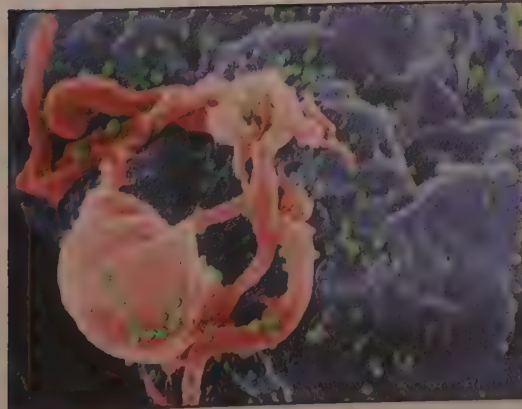
At its spring event, Apple also released a new 9.7-inch iPad Pro, keeping in line with its trend toward making smaller devices. The previous model had a 12.9-inch screen and a price that is \$200 above that of the new model, which costs \$599. The new model is also available in an additional pink color that the previous model did not have.

The new iPad appears to be Apple's attempt at reversing the recent decline in tablet sales. The company also lowered the price of its existing tablets, which included the iPad Mini and the iPad Air 2, to \$269 and \$399, respectively.

Additionally, Apple made an announcement regarding its smartwatch, Apple Watch, saying that its least expensive model would cost buyers \$299. The company also introduced some sport and leather bands in a variety of colors for the Apple Watch.

During the event, Cook also took some time to discuss Apple's legal battle against the U.S. government. The government is

SEE IPHONE, PAGE B8



C. GOLDSMITH/PUBLIC DOMAIN

HIV can cause AIDS, especially when it is not properly treated.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Microbe protein offers hope for blindness



Duy Phan
The Brain Wave

Neuroscience breakthroughs come in all shapes and sizes.

For example, tiny single-celled organisms called microbes have recently generated interest in the neuroscience field. Light-sensitive proteins called opsins are inserted onto the cell surfaces of some microbes such as algae. These opsins convert the detection of light into cellular changes. Neuroscientists discovered that by inserting these same proteins onto the cell surfaces of neurons, neural activity can be controlled using light.

The method of controlling neurons by light, termed optogenetics, has enabled researchers to activate or inhibit different neural classes in the nervous system, thereby helping to reveal the functional roles each neural class plays in behavior and physiology. Optogenetics also offers new hope for the treatment of brain disorders because studies on animal models have shown that brain diseases may be treatable by manipulating dysfunctional circuits via optogenetics. Using optogenetics, scientists have been able to reduce seizures in epilepsy patients, reverse drug addiction and attenuate depression.

Preclinical successes in optogenetics have led to much excitement in the field, and research on the lab bench is currently being translated into human clinical trials. While manipulating human neural circuits is not a new idea, optogenetics offers distinct advantages over previous strategies that use electrical means, including the greater specificity of neural classes it targets, and its tighter control on neural activity.

The first clinical trial for therapy with optogenetics was approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration in 2015. The treatment consists of injecting a virus into the eye to express Channelrhodopsin-2 (ChR2), a type of opsin in the retinal neurons of individuals who have a genetic condition called retinitis pigmentosa (RP).

RP causes blindness due to the degeneration of photoreceptors in the eye. Photoreceptors normally detect light input and send this information to neurons called retinal ganglion cells. These ganglion cells then transmit light information to the brain for processing. Thus, by expressing ChR2 in the retina, the surviving retinal ganglion cells will also be able to detect light input in the absence of upstream photoreceptors. The company sponsoring the work, Retrosense Therapeutics, writes on their website that the approach enables clinicians to “install new photoreceptors,

restoring vision irrespective of which gene defect is responsible for vision loss.”

Although it is not clear whether this type of strategy can fully restore an individual's vision, mouse studies have shown that expressing ChR2 in retinal neurons can restore light perception in animals that experienced blindness due to photoreceptor loss. Subsequent studies in non-human primates showed that the strategy was well tolerated and safe.

The first phase of the clinical trial for the treatment, termed RST-001, began in November of last year and will be complete in 2017. If RST-001 is shown to be safe for humans, the treatment will be tested in subsequent phases of the clinical trial to determine its effectiveness. However, the first phase of the clinical trial will provide preliminary results about the treatment's efficacy.

While it is highly unrealistic that RST-001 will magically allow individuals with RP to see everything again because vision is a highly complex and dynamic neural process, it is possible the treatment may allow RP patients to recover some basic forms of visual perception. Even the ability to recognize large objects would be outstanding progress.

Apple reveals new products, addresses lawsuit

IPHONE, FROM B7

interested in information located in the iPhone of Syed Rizwan Farook, the gunman in the San Bernardino shooting, which took place on Dec. 2, 2015.

However, in order to do this, the government must unlock the iPhone using new software that would be created by Apple to bypass the phone's password. Apple says that creating such software could lead to a downward spiral, resulting in a loss of privacy for many iPhone users around the world.

“The government is asking Apple to hack our own users and undermine decades of security advancements that protect our customers — including tens of millions of American citizens — from sophisticated hackers and

cybercriminals,” Apple wrote in a public letter on Feb. 16.

Cook maintained the company's stance on protecting consumer privacy at the event.

“We believe that we have a responsibility to help you protect your data and protect your privacy,” he said. “We owe it to our customers, and we owe it to our country. This is an issue that affects all of us, and we will not shrink from our responsibility.” A poll by CBS News and *The New York Times* showed the consumer base is divided regarding this controversial case. Out of over 1,000 people surveyed, about 50 percent said that Apple should unlock the shooter's phone, understanding that such a move could potentially lead to loss of privacy.



JASONANAGGIE/CC-BY-SA-4.0

With a four-inch screen, the new iPhone SE is similar to the iPhone 6.

Forty-five percent said the privacy of consumers' devices should come first, and the government is overreaching by trying to access the phone's data.

A recent development in the case has the FBI developing a promising en-

ryption workaround that may be able to access the contents of Farook's phone, in which case Apple would not have to develop new software. Both parties would likely settle for this move as long as the code is kept classified.

Researchers find a protein fertilization catalyst

By RAYYAN JOKHAI
Staff Writer

Researchers working on a project funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) have discovered a molecule that increases the activity of sperm cells so they can travel to egg cells. The identification of this molecule can potentially be used in male contraceptives and treatments for infertility based on problems with sperm mobility.

While sperm cells in the male reproductive tract are capable of

movement, this range of motion is not nearly enough to allow them to reach the egg in the female reproductive tract. In order for them to complete this trip, they are activated by progesterone, a hormone released by the egg.

According to a recent study published online in *Science*, the molecule to which progesterone binds is the enzyme alpha/beta hydrolase domain containing protein 2 (ABHD2).

Before sperm becomes hyperactive, calcium

enters its flagella. The sperm protein CatSper joins with similar proteins in the flagella to propel the sperm to the egg. Upon conducting their investigation, the researchers found that CatSper is not involved in triggering the calcium. The researchers then moved on to isolate ABHD2 from the flagella. When ABHD2 was inactive, the sperm cells could not be activated by progesterone, confirming the researchers' beliefs that ABHD2 is the molecular target of pro-

gesterone.

“This is an important advance in explaining how sperm become hypermotile in the female reproductive tract,” Stuart Moss, director of the male reproductive health program at NIH's Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, said in a press release. “Developing new compounds that block ABHD2 ultimately may yield new contraceptive methods to prevent sperm from reaching the egg.”

Scientists create a self-healing, shape-adaptable material

MATERIAL, FROM B7

the silicone would take over.

The composite was implemented on a tentacle that was pneumatic or operated by air or gas pressure. This way, the tentacle demonstrated a rigid structure except when heated, at which point its shape became adjustable. The material was similarly characterized as a metal wing, which could easily be bent once the metal was liquefied.

To test the self-healing capabilities of the material, small cuts were made on the material with scissors. After al-

lowing the metal to melt and fuse, scientists observed minimal to negligible visual changes to the material. They found the self-healed sample to have about 78 percent of the virgin sample's elastic limit. The decrease in the material's tensile strength and toughness was caused by the irreparable damage done to the elastomer.

The composite showed such a strong self-healing aptitude that after the worst-case scenario happened — complete severing of the composite resulting in two halves of the sample — the material

was able to restore itself into one piece. To ensure the retention of load support capability, the self-healed composite was put through a mechanical test in which it displayed properties similar to the virgin sample. While the self-healed sample had a plane of discontinuity from the elastomer, it exhibited levels of toughness comparable to the virgin sample.

Due to its useful properties and low toxicity, the researchers hope the composite can be helpful for biomedical engineers.

“In general, we want the things we make in

this lab to be potentially biocompatible,” Ilse Van Meerbeek, graduate student and coauthor of the study, said in a press release.

This material could potentially be used by orthopedic surgeons, who are usually in need of structures that can assimilate to patients' bodies in ways that meet their individual needs.

Meerbeek also foresaw a more futuristic application of the new material.

“It could be used in search-and-rescue robots,” she said. “It would be able to go into dangerous and/or unpredictable

environments and be able to go through narrow cracks, which rigid robots can't do.”

While the future uses of the composite are still unknown, the team has started thinking about its next steps. Through 3-D printing, the composite's production could be automatized, and its characteristics could be precisely varied according to customers' desires. Moreover, the team hypothesized that using thermoplastic — a cheap and biocompatible material — instead of metal could reveal similar findings.

Neurons affect overeating and similar behaviors in humans

EATING, FROM B7

published a study in *Cell Reports* describing that

when the hormone glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1) was reduced in the central

nervous system of laboratory mice, the mice started to overeat and consume

more high-fat food.

“The mice in which the GLP-1 deficiency was induced ate beyond the need for calories and showed an increased preference for high fat food,” Vincent Mirabella, coauthor of the study, said in a press release. “Conversely, when we enhanced GLP-1 signaling in the brains of mice we were able to block the preference of high fat foods.”

The authors discovered that activating the GLP-1 hormone in the mesolimbic system interfered with the communication between neurons, which exchange information to control reward behaviors such as eating. This resulted in the mice eating less food and losing their preference for foods high

in fat.

“These are the same areas of the brain that control other addictive behaviors like drug and alcohol abuse and nicotine addiction,” Zhiping Pang, assistant professor and senior author, said in a press release.

A drug that mimics GLP-1 to improve glucose tolerance is currently available and has been recently approved as treatment for obesity, but it has significant side effects.

As research on how the central nervous system regulates food consumption behavior continues to progress, our understanding of the neural mechanisms that drive overeating and obesity are likely to expand.



UNKNOWN/PUBLIC DOMAIN

People often overeat as a result of an imbalance of hormones such as glucagon-like peptide-1.

Debunking common myths about autism

Manish Paranjpe
Guest Columnist

Autism has long baffled scientists. Its intense heterogeneity and seemingly enigmatic cause have led clinicians and researchers to struggle to devise a cure. However, in the midst of this confusion, several problematic and often disturbing misconceptions about the nature of autism have arisen. I set out to dispel some of the myths surrounding autism.

Myth: Autism is a singular disease.
Fact: Autism, more accurately referred to as autism spectrum disorders (ASD), actually represents a set of heterogeneous diseases, including Fragile X Syndrome, Asperger's Syndrome, pervasive developmental disorder and classic autism. Of these subtypes, Fragile X Syndrome has been traced to a malfunction in a specific gene: FMR1. Unlike patients with other types of autism, patients with Asperger's Syndrome are said to have high-functioning autism due to their seemingly normal cognitive abilities. It is exactly this vast heterogeneity in subtypes that makes ASD such a problematic disease to cure. To make inroads into autism research, scientists have often turned to simple genetic models of autism, such as Fragile X Syndrome. The jury is out, however, on whether the findings from these models can be applied to other forms of autism.

Myth: Early childhood vaccination can sometimes lead to autism.
Fact: This myth was circulated by a fraudulent 1998 article in *Lancet* in which British gastroenterologist Andrew Wakefield claimed to have found a link between autism and the measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccine. The article has since been retracted, and Wakefield has been condemned by the scientific community for manipulating evidence. Yet the effects of Wakefield's article were widespread: Following his 1998 claim, vaccination rates in Ireland and England fell sharply, leading to an almost 20-fold increase in reported cases of measles from 1998 to 2007. Many people still believe in this myth, but nothing could be further from the truth. We have a highly convincing body of evidence showing that there is no correlation between vaccinations and autism. A 2013 study con-

ducted by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) found no significant correlation between antibody stimulating proteins (such as those found in vaccines) and autism. A total of nine CDC-funded studies have shown that popular vaccine ingredients, such as mercury-based thimerosal, which were once thought to lead to autism, have been reported to have no correlation with autism.

Myth: People with autism are cold and unable to form meaningful social relationships.
Fact: Autism is a developmental disability characterized by not only abnormal brain structure, but also behavioral and cognitive problems. One of the most recognizable features of autism is social disconnection. Patients with autism may seem to show a lack of interest in interacting with external stimuli. For example, a 2005 study by Yale psychiatrist Fred Volkmar found that infants with autism are less responsive to human faces and voices compared to normal controls. However, autism is a spectrum of diseases, and many individuals with higher-functioning autism can successfully maintain social relationships. Furthermore, we must be careful not to confuse social disconnection with a cold affect. While individuals with autism may have trouble with social awareness and social interaction, they often exhibit a genuine affection for those around them.

Myth: Autism is caused solely by environmental factors.
Fact: Whole genome-wide association studies have been crucial in identifying certain risk genes for autism. A 2014 paper in *Nature Genetics* found that 49 percent of the risk for developing autism can be attributed to certain common risk genes. The subject of autism and one's genes remains the focus of research.

Myth: Individuals with autism have a low IQ.
Fact: Intellectual disorder sometimes presents as comorbid with autism. However, autism is a vast subset of disease and often individuals with autism, particularly Asperger's Syndrome, excel well beyond their peers in certain areas.

Autism is a set of complex neurological and developmental disorders of the brain. As the incidence of autism diagnosis becomes more prevalent in society, we must be increasingly careful to separate autism fact from myth.

Study finds high rates of unsafe abortions

By JOAN YEA
Senior Staff Writer

The availability of abortion services continues to be a politically and religiously contentious issue for women all around the world. While induced abortion is one of the safest medical interventions when performed in a regulated medical setting, many women in both developing and developed countries who lack access to such services resort to unsafe methods of pregnancy termination.

Recently, a study conducted by researchers at the Guttmacher Institute in the U.S. found that about seven million women in the developing world were treated for complications from unsafe pregnancy termination in 2012. The study, which was published in the journal *BJOG: An International Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology*, estimates that in 2012, 6.9 per every 1,000 women aged 15 to 44 in developing countries sought medical treatment following the use of unsafe abortion procedures.

To arrive at this estimate, Susheela Singh, the lead investigator, utilized available data from country-specific published studies and national health statistics of 26 developing countries to extrapolate the overall number of women in the developing world who sought post-abortion care. The data compiled from these sources were adjusted to include women receiving treatment in health care facilities in the private sector and to exclude a proportion of clinical cases that were most likely misidentified as complications from miscarriage, which have similar symptoms to complications from induced pregnancy termination methods.



DFID/CC-BY-2.0
Many women in developing countries do not have access to safe pregnancy termination procedures.

According to the final estimated figures, the number of women treated for unsafe pregnancy termination methods varied from the highest rate of 14.6 per 1,000 women in Pakistan to the lowest rate of 2.4 per 1,000 women in Brazil. In terms of regional rates, Asia had the highest rate, at 8.2 per 1,000 women (4.6 million women per year), followed by Africa, with a rate of 6.7 per 1,000 women, as well as Latin America and the Caribbean region, with a rate of 5.3 per 1,000 women. In the calculation of regional rates, countries in East Asia with legal, accessible abortion services were excluded.

As shown by these estimates, the incidence of treatment for unsafe abortion continues to be highly prevalent. However, the researchers note in their discussion that the treatment rates, while a useful measure, most likely underestimate the burden of unsafe abortion. According to another study based on several surveys conducted between 2000 and 2008, about 60 percent of wom-

en suffering from post-abortion complications receive care from health care facilities, while the rest do not obtain the necessary medical treatment. Assuming similar levels of post-abortion care in 2012, the actual number of women who were driven to use unsafe pregnancy termination methods would be 1.67 times higher than the estimates of the women who sought medical care.

The estimates also had several additional limitations. Data from only 26 developing countries were used to represent the prevalence of post-abortion care in the entire developing world. Moreover, complications resulting from low-quality abortion services in countries with legalized abortion services were not included in the data, further underestimating the incidence of unsafe pregnancy termination in developing countries.

Even among the 26 representative countries, the researchers found that several lacked reliable health systems statistics, so they had to make additional assumptions regarding the treatment rates. Obtaining accurate

data on treatment rates for post-abortion care presents many challenges, as the investigators noted, since the topic of pregnancy termination is highly stigmatized. As a result, insufficient data on the extent of the practice may misleadingly guide policies and programs to combat unsafe pregnancy termination.

The investigators of this study suggest that safe, regulated abortion services should become available in developing countries. However, a systematic review published in April 2015 in the *Journal of Family Planning and Reproductive Health Care* has found that women, especially those of low socioeconomic status, face multiple financial obstacles in obtaining the procedure. For instance, some of these women may have to seek a clinic in a city far away from their community.

According to the World Health Organization, around four unsafe abortions are performed for every 100 live births in developed countries. Even where abortion is legal and available, women are often still hindered from gaining access to abortion services.

Smartphone app can track finger movements

By PAIGE FRANK
Staff Writer

With the advent of smartwatches and smaller touchscreen devices, many people, especially those with limited dexterity, find it difficult to manipulate items on such small screens using just their fingers. In response to this, computer scientists and engineers at the University of Washington (UW) have developed an application, called FingerIO, that allows users to control their devices by tracking the movement of their fingers. Moving your finger on a table or on a piece of paper, or simply moving it in mid-air, would allow you to scroll through menus, press buttons or even reply to a text.

FingerIO functions by turning the smartphone or watch into an active sonar system by commandeering the use of its microphones and speakers. An audible sound wave is emitted from the microphone, and when the wave bounces off the user's finger, the returning echoes are read by the speaker in order to calculate the finger's location.

"You can't type very easily onto a smartwatch display, so we wanted to transform a desk or any area around a device into an input surface," lead author Rajalakshmi Nan-

dakumar, a UW doctoral student in computer science and engineering, said in a press release. "I don't need to instrument my fingers with any other sensors — I just use my finger to write something on a desk or any other surface and the device can track it with high resolution."

When designing FingerIO, the team considered other methods that could potentially track users' finger movements. Video, for example, was one consideration. However, this would require that the device possess a direct line of sight with the person's hand. Radar was also considered, but this required custom sensor hardware and significant computing power. Working with sonar enables the app to function without any new hardware and allows the user to access the device when it is hidden by fabric, such as under a sleeve or in a pocket.

"Acoustic signals are great — because sound waves travel much slower than the radio waves used in radar, you don't need as much processing bandwidth so everything is simpler," Shyam Gollakota, senior author and UW assistant professor of computer science and engineering, said in a press release. "And from a cost perspective, almost every device has a speaker and

microphones so you can achieve this without any special hardware."

The biggest challenge the researchers faced regarding the sonar system was fine-tuning its precision. Sound wave echoes are naturally weak, making it difficult to precisely pinpoint a finger's location at any given moment. When it comes to translating a user's movements into commands, precision is necessary. An error of a few centimeters can mean the difference between entirely different letters when someone is typing. The app is able to track finger movements within eight millimeters, which is sufficient enough for modern smartphone devices.

The UW team's success with FingerIO was revealed in a paper that is to be presented in May at the Association for Computing Machinery's 2016 conference in San Jose, California.

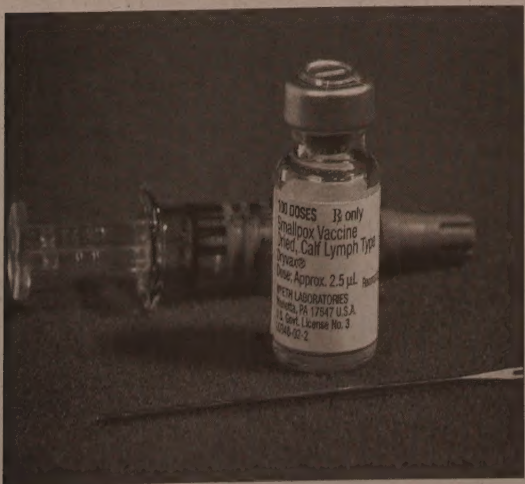
To demonstrate the high resolution tracking of FingerIO, the team used Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiplexing (OFDM), a signal commonly used in wireless communication. Specially designed algorithms used the OFDM properties to track phase changes in echoes during several tests. Accounting for such changes enabled the device to automatically correct for errors in

its detection of the finger location.

To test the app, the researchers downloaded the FingerIO prototype app onto a Samsung Galaxy S4 and a smartwatch. While the phone was simply an off-the-shelf model, the watch was customized with two microphones, an upgrade that was necessary for it to track in two dimensions. Test subjects then used their fingers to draw shapes on a touchpad while FingerIO tracked their movements. The shapes drawn on the pad were compared to the shapes computed by devices with FingerIO. The difference between the two averaged out to be only 0.8 centimeters for the phone and 1.2 centimeters for the smartwatch.

"Given that your finger is already a centimeter thick, that's sufficient to accurately interact with the devices," Vikram Iyer, an electrical engineering graduate student and a co-author of the paper, said in a press release.

Moving forward, the team plans to demonstrate that FingerIO can be used to track multiple fingers moving at the same time. They also hope to explore the extent of the app's tracking abilities by adding additional microphones to the different devices.



JAMES GATHANY/PUBLIC DOMAIN
There is no evidence to support the claim that vaccines cause autism.

SPORTS

Revisiting the Duke lax scandal 10 years later



Devin Tucker
Dev's Corner

As I sat in my den this past Easter weekend, I flipped through the channels on my television in search of something that would grab my attention, but came up empty-handed again and again. Finally, I stumbled upon a particularly interesting choice: ESPN's 30 for 30 on the Duke lacrosse scandal.

I watched the entire production, and I highly recommend doing so. I finished watching with a sense of shock gripping me and found that I couldn't really bring myself to discuss the case with any of my peers without losing my train of thought while scrambling for the right thing to say.

The case, which was previewed by an athletic suspension that occurred 10 years ago to this day (March 28), did not seem as jam-packed with controversy to my 12-year-old self as it appears today.

The main issues of this case divided between two distinct lines: culture and race. I am a white male, and I grew up in a middle class family with two parents who were heavily involved in the game of lacrosse.

I played from the time I was four years old, on my first team "The Purple Powershooters," until my freshman year of college.

Throughout this time, I have become acquainted with hundreds of lacrosse players, and all of my closest friends have played the sport in some capacity.

I only use this information to frame my credibility in describing the majority of lacrosse players I've met as hard-working, tough and good people who have developed a humble disposition resulting from time spent on the battlefield.

Lacrosse has always acted as a metaphor for battle in my own life. While the game literally mimics battle through the use of "armor" (padding) and "weaponry" (sticks), it also represents an internal battle against the trials and tribulations of life.

Every person I've met who plays lacrosse for an extended period of

time has a reverence for the game: a reverence produced in a tight-knit community and ever-expanding demographic of those who play the game.

When you step onto the field, all worries and concerns melt away, and can even be harnessed to enhance one's play. The game of lacrosse has a sort of mysticism about it, an aura that demands respect and appreciation. The sport has created an unintentional image of arrogance and elitism in its development, but I can say wholeheartedly that while you will find some people who fit that mold as in any sport, the game teaches most people the virtues of humility and strength of character.

I really enjoy symbolism. As in life, there are a lot of assumptions and prejudices that go into sports. Although a lot of the time we assume these things are directed toward minorities, all people can feel the sting of prejudice.

The Duke Lacrosse Scandal revolved around an African-American dancer alleging that three members of the Duke lacrosse team sexually assaulted her. Although there was no substantial evidence put forth, the district attorney of Durham, N.C. named Mike Nifong took a vested interest in putting these potential criminals behind bars. Nifong went out of his way to withhold evidence that would clearly exonerate the accused, which just shows how much power the boundaries of race and culture possess.

The case soon transcended its objective structure of a woman versus three young men and soon produced a large platform for controversy. The debate turned into white versus black and rich versus poor, which influenced a quickly growing opposition against the lacrosse players and produced an obfuscating sympathy for the victim.

A large portion of the general public relished the opportunity to see three wealthy white males serve time in prison, although the three players were innocent throughout.

Sports can exacerbate prejudices and frame people in a way that may not represent their character in the slightest, which proves that athletic competition does not limit itself to the field of play, but rather to all walks of life.

BLUE JAY SPORTS SCOREBOARD			
M. Lacrosse	Baseball	M. Track	M. Tennis
March 27, 2016	March 25, 2016	March 26, 2016	March 26, 2016
@ Charlottesville, Va.	vs. Gwynedd-Mercy University	Maryland Invitational	@ Dickinson College
L, 13-12 (OT)	W, 6-3	Second Place	W, 9-0
W. Track	W. Lacrosse	W. Tennis	Baseball
March 26, 2016	March 26, 2016	March 26, 2016	March 26, 2016
Maryland Invitational	vs. Furman University	@ Haverford College	@ Rutgers University-Camden
Third Place	W, 17-3	W, 9-0	L, 13-0

Orioles hope to compete in stacked AL East

ORIOLES, FROM B12

teams in the AL East becoming stronger, the Orioles appeared to be on the decline. It was widely believed at the beginning of the winter that the O's would be unable to resign their own free agents, let alone others, but they defied the doubts.

The wild winter began in November, with elite catcher Matt Wieters unexpectedly accepting Baltimore's qualifying offer to return to the team for the upcoming season. In early December, the O's traded for slugger Mark Trumbo, giving up little in return and bolstering their already powerful lineup.

Soon after, free agent relief pitcher Darren O'Day opted to resign with Baltimore on a four-year contract; the move once again solidified what is one of the best bullpens in baseball.

Later in the month, Hyun-soo Kim, one of the best hitters in Korea, signed with the O's on a low-risk, high-reward two-year contract. The offseason had been going well so far, but there was still a big move that had to be made for the O's to see their offseason as a success.

In January, that move happened. After months of negotiations, the Orioles resigned their star slugger, Chris Davis, to the most lucrative contract in team history, bringing him on for the next seven years for an astronomical \$161 million. At this point, having dished out so much dough already, the Orioles decided that it was time to go all-in.

In February, they added a former All-Star starting pitcher, Yovani Gallardo, to replace Wei-Yin Chen, who left in free agency to a two-year contract.

In March, after a deal with Cubs Outfielder Dexter Fowler fell through, they signed former Pirates slugger Pedro Álvarez to cap off what was by far their most expensive offseason ever. Not only did they spend, they spent wisely — this team is going to be really good. Now let's look at why.

Let's start with the guy in the dugout and the guy in the front office. Showalter and Duquette are among the best in the game at their respective jobs.

The decisions and transactions they have made already, as well as the ones they will undoubtedly make down the road, are among the main reasons that the Orioles have become contenders these past several years and that they will contend once again this season.

Now let's look at the guys on the diamond. On the mound, the Orioles have a plethora of starting pitchers vying for five spots in a rotation that has struggled over the past few seasons.

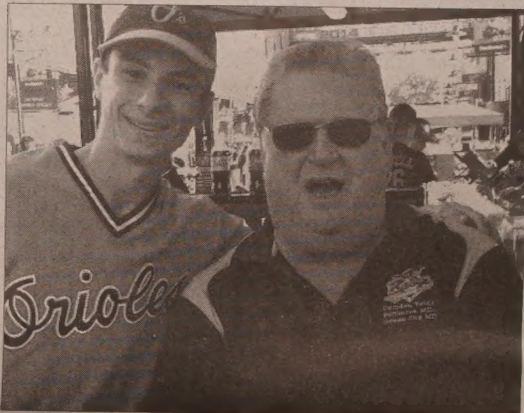
Establishing consistency will be the main focus of this group, which is headlined by opening-day starter Chris Tillman. Tillman will be joined by veterans Yovani Gallardo, Ubaldo Jiménez and Miguel González, as well as by the young Kevin Gausman, who will continue to strive to reach his enormous potential.

The bullpen is headlined by veteran set-up man O'Day — who is known for his submarine-style motion — and closer Zach Britton, a starter-turned-reliever, who is now one of the best in the business at the end of games. Both O'Day and Britton were All-Stars last year and have led the way in forming one of strongest bullpens in all of baseball.

Behind the plate, Wieters and Caleb Joseph make up a solid catching duo that plays elite defense and makes an impact in the batters box as well.

Chris Davis, Trumbo and Álvarez will likely split their time at first base, in the outfield or as the designated hitter, and they all deliver the same thing: power. Davis has led the League in home runs two of the past three seasons and has the most home runs in baseball since 2012.

Álvarez led the National League (NL) in home runs in 2013, and Trumbo has delivered 30 home runs in multiple



COURTESY OF DANIEL LANDY
Oriole's legend Boog Powell and our columnist Daniel at the ballpark.

seasons and is still definitely in the upswing of his career. These three will definitely be striking out a lot as well, but as long as they are hitting home runs, the O's will be winning games.

The rest of the infield is comprised of rising star Jonathan Schoop, proven veteran J.J. Hardy and quintessential superstar Manny Machado.

Schoop, in limited playing time, has showcased his power capabilities at the plate and has exhibited consistently strong defense at second base. Hardy, the shortstop, is coming off an injury-plagued season, but will look to return to his Gold Glove and Silver Slugger form of several years ago.

As for Machado, the third baseman is now widely regarded as one of the best players in baseball, having finished off a remarkable 2015 campaign in what was just his second season playing in a majority of Baltimore's games.

Machado bashed 35 home runs, won his second Gold Glove, was elected to his second All-Star Game and finished fourth in the AL MVP voting.

Machado is arguably the best defensive infielder in the game; He can hit the ball as well as anyone, he has speed and he is only going to get better.

Along with Mike Trout and Bryce Harper, Machado is leading baseball's next generation and proving that the sport is in good hands going forward.

In either left or right field, Hyun-soo Kim will begin his MLB career

looking to continue the success that he experienced in Korea. As Kim continues the difficult transition, Joey Rickard, who was acquired in the Rule 5 Draft last year, will also be given playing time as he tries to unleash his immense potential. Either way, more depth is always a positive thing in a 162-game season.

And last but not least, in center field, the heart and soul of the Birds, the electrifying Adam Jones will look to continue cementing his legacy in Orioles history.

Jones, a fan favorite in Baltimore and around the League, is known for the excitement and passion he brings to the game, his consistent hitting and impressive power and his Gold-Glove-caliber defense.

While he will not be smashing pies in the faces of his teammates after victories this season as he did throughout the past few seasons (for safety reasons!), his ever-present charismatic attitude will be there as always.

The Orioles are going to be great this year and there is no reason to not check them out. Camden Yards, one of the best stadiums in baseball, sits alongside the Inner Harbor, just a few miles down the road from the Homewood campus.

So go down to the park, grab a sandwich at Boog's — run by 1970 MVP Boog Powell, who takes pictures with customers—and watch the O's surge towards the playoffs. It's going to be a great season in Birdland. Play ball!



WIKIMEDIA/CC BY-SA 3.0

Duke University's reputation was temporarily impugned by the scandal.

SPORTS

The debate on gender and prize money

Sammy Bhatia
Sportpinion

Given our beliefs about gender equality and inequality, there needs to be a discussion regarding athletes' compensation according to gender. For many sports such as tennis, each match is longer and more physical for professional men's players than it is for professional women's players. Thus, it appears to make sense that prize money per tournament ought to be higher for men, whose performances not only last longer but also draw in larger crowds and thus more profits. The other side of the debate argues that since women dedicate the same time and efforts to their careers, they ought to be rewarded the same. In all honesty, both sides of the discussion have merit.

Within the past decade, major tournaments such as the US Open have instituted equal-prize policies, guaranteeing the men's champions and women's champions the same reward. This has, as expected, stirred some debate.

The waters grew murky when the CEO of the Indian Wells Tennis Garden Raymond Moore said that the women's tour, athletes and organization alike, "ride on the coat-tails of the men."

World No. 1 and 11-time major champion Novak Djokovic recently chimed in to respond to Moore's comments, which he labeled as "not politically correct." Confusingly, however, he quickly turned around to say that the men's tennis tour should "fight for more," implying that the current

distribution of wealth is, to whatever capacity, unfair.

He later explained himself and reasoned that men ought to be paid more because they attract a bigger audience and more spectators and sell more tickets.

21-time major champion and current World No. 1 Serena Williams' response to the controversy, directed in particular at Moore, was perhaps the most eye-catching. "There's only one way to interpret that. Get on your knees, which is offensive enough, and thank a man," she said. "We shouldn't have to drop to our knees at any point."

Moore, as if he didn't understand when to stop, responded and said, "If I was a lady player, I would go down every night on my knees and thank God that Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal were born, because they have carried this sport. They really have."

He was met with a storm of hate, with the likes of even tennis legend Billie Jean King herself chiming in with the tweet, "Disappointed in #RaymondMoore comments. He is wrong on so many levels. Every player, especially the top players, contribute to our success."

Djokovic perhaps did not handle the situation well either, which he only described as "very delicate." He also claimed that he is "completely for women's power."

In all fairness, however, a large portion of the tennis-viewing community feels the same way, mainly because men's matches last five sets whereas women's last only three. The matches are longer and generally prove more entertaining.

Both sides, at the end of the day, make sense.

By MAGGIE SPITZER
Staff Writer

After leading the Blue Jays to a 2-1 team record at the Blue Grey Invitational last week, sophomore Megumi Chen was named the Centennial Conference Player of the Week. Chen finished 2-1 at No. 2 singles and 3-0 at No. 2 doubles in Fredericksburg, Va. before adding another victory on Saturday in the team's 9-0 shutout of the Haverford College Fords.

The News-Letter was privileged enough to hear Chen's thoughts on the team's success this spring and gain an insight into the daily life of a Hopkins tennis player.

The News-Letter: When you aren't out on the tennis court, how do you like to spend your time?

Megumi Chen: Studying! It's not necessarily something I "like," but it is what takes up most of my time off the court. When I do get some free time, though, I like to stay active by doing yoga, stretching, taking walks and cooking/baking. I also love spending time with my family, especially

my nine-year-old sister, Maria, who is my best friend and inspiration.

N-L: What is your secret to balancing athletics with academics?

MC: Although there is no "secret formula" (I wish there was!), I think that being on top of my time management and setting priorities are keys for me to balancing out athletics and everything else... I try to go into each week with a solid academic and tennis plan — kind of like a "game plan" for the week.

N-L: How has your role on the team developed in the past year?

MC: Over the past year, I feel that I have grown as a tennis player, but mostly as a teammate. It is amazing to see the transition from playing individual

ally in junior tournaments to playing for a team in college. Playing for a team carries an increased amount of pressure but also an equivalent amount of excitement and determination to win my matches. I have become even tougher since my match affects

the weight of the team. For example, in our first round at the [Intercollegiate Tennis Association] National Team Indoor Championships this February, we were down 0-4 as a team (the first team to win five matches wins as a team), and so my match was the deciding match of whether we would survive the first round or not. I was able to hang in there mentally and win in three sets, which ignited the rest of our team to win the rest of our matches to come back and win 5-4.

I think that now that I have been on the team for a year, I am more familiar with the team dynamics and am more involved in the process of strengthening our team spirit, which I value the most.

N-L: What goals do you have personally and for your squad this season?

MC: The ultimate goal for our team is to win the [National Collegiate Athletic Association] NCAA National Championships. Although we have come close in the past years, we did not perform as well as we would have liked to last year when we lost in the round of 16 of NCAA's, so we are hoping to step up our game and commitment in order to reach the top.

Personally, I am determined to play and win as many matches as I can in my position in both doubles and singles in order to contribute to our team.

N-L: How does it feel to

receive the honor of Centennial Conference Player of the Week?

MC: I am very honored to have received the Centennial Conference player of the week! The hard work I have put in since I started playing the sport about 11 years ago and the incredible support I have gotten from my mom, sister, coaches, trainers and teammates has allowed me to grow and improve in order to accomplish the many goals that I have set for myself. There is still a lot of work to be accomplished, and I will keep continuing to work hard to strive for my goals, but I am very thankful for all the support I have gotten throughout my tennis journey.

N-L: What is your favorite part of the Hopkins tennis program?

MC: Being in a team atmosphere, especially considering that tennis is a very [individual] sport, makes the sport so much more enjoyable. I am so fortunate to have a supportive and close-knit team that truly cares for each other and also the coaches who are so supportive of not just my tennis, but my academics and career goals as well. I love being able to play the sport I love at the school that I love while also being able to create life-long friendships along the way. I am proud and fortunate to be a Blue Jay!

VITAL STATISTICS

Name: Megumi Chen
Year: Sophomore
Sport: Women's Tennis
Position: Attack
Major: Applied Math & Statistics
Hometown: McLean, VA
High School: McLean High

Rutgers-Camden shuts out Baseball team 13-0

BASEBALL, FROM B12

midway through his freshman season, and he has played exceptionally well since.

Reynolds has a knack for manufacturing powerful hits, seemingly at will. He led off the game against Rutgers-Camden with a double, but was left stranded on third, setting the tone for the rest of the game.

He boasts a .349 batting average, with nine doubles, three triples, and one home run. Combined with great up-the-middle range, Reynolds's value to the team cannot be understated.

Earlier in this season, after the Jays lost a substantial lead in the late innings against the SUNY New Paltz Hawks, Reynolds launched a fastball over the left field fence

to tie it up in the bottom of the eighth. He has the unique ability to turn the tide of the game with one swing of the bat, a web gem up the middle, or by making his teammates better by looking to him as an example of what it takes to win.

Reynolds's double-play partner, senior second baseman Raul Shah, knows firsthand his value to the team.

"Conor is a competitor," Shah said. "He's one of our hardest workers,

and he's got a great approach at the plate. He crushes pitches over the plate, but has the discipline to lay off balls, draw walks and get on base."

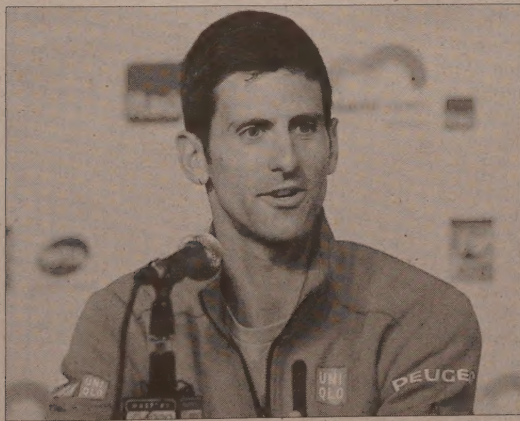
Senior leaders like Shah are able to appreciate the intangibles that Reynolds brings to the game.

"Out of all the players, [Reynolds] shows the most passion and desire to win," Shah said. "The type of competitiveness sets the standard for the young-

er guys and gives them someone to look up to as a role model."

The Jays will play open conference against the Haverford College Fords this weekend and will rely on Reynolds' bat, glove and especially his leadership to work out the kinks and get back to playing solid, fundamental baseball.

The Haverford series is always a fun one for the Jays and their fans, and game one will be this Saturday at noon at Babb Field.



ALAN DIAZ/CC-BY-3.0

Djokovic received criticism for recent comments regarding equal pay.



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Men finish second at Maryland Invite

TRACK, FROM B12

the Jays in three of the top five finishes.

The Jays' performance landed them a third-place finish this weekend with 88 points behind two D-I teams, the University of Maryland Terps and the Howard University Bison.

The men saw impressive performances both on the field and the track. Senior Schaffer Ochstein highlighted the Jays' acumen in the distance events. He finished third in the 3000 meter, crossing the line in 8:43. He was followed by freshman teammate Scott Pourshalchi in fifth. The Jays had five runners in the top 10 finishes.

On the field, junior Andrew Bartnett continued his success from the indoor season. Just a few weeks ago, Bartnett placed second at National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) championships in the pole vault for the second consecutive year and earned All-American honors. To no one's surprise, Bartnett won the pole vault in 4.87m this

past Saturday. Sophomore teammate Alex Kossak finished third in 4.12m.

Adding to the success of the men's squad, junior Tom Boucher broke his own program record in the javelin. Boucher threw 59.79m to win the event and earn 10 team points. His performance broke his record set last year by over five meters. Sophomore teammate Matt Kosarek placed third in the event for six more team points.

"It is easy to do well at something if you enjoy working towards your goals," Boucher said. "Spending time with these people, all working toward the same goals is one of the greatest experiences."

After his performance this weekend, Boucher was subsequently named

the Centennial Conference Athlete of the Week. His mark in the javelin ranks him at the top of the Centennial Conference and fourth among all D-III throwers.

Overall, the men finished with 149 points to earn second place in the team finish. They followed behind first-place Rowan University by just 24 points and managed to edge out home team Maryland by three points.

The main concern was to get the season going and to feel the adrenaline of competition again," Boucher said.

Both teams will compete on Saturday in Williamsburg, Va. at the Colonial Invite hosted by College of William & Mary.



HOPKINSSPORTS.COM
Tom Boucher was named C.C. Athlete of the Week.

SPORTS

Did You Know?

Senior Raul Shah went 5-for-5 in the baseball team's win in their last game in Florida.

CALENDAR

Friday
Baseball vs. Gwynedd Mercy, 3 p.m.
Saturday
Women's Lax vs. Furman, 1 p.m.
Sunday
Men's Lax @ Virginia, 1 p.m.

O's optimistic after dynamic offseason

By DANIEL LANDY
For The News-Letter

It is indisputable that the last couple of weeks have been absolutely amazing for sports fans of all stripes, with March Madness taking over the sports world and providing dozens of thrilling games going down to the final buzzer. Unfortunately, the Madness will end on April 4 at the culmination of the national championship game. However, with this bad news comes great news, as the Major League Baseball (MLB) season will commence on April 3 with three games, including a World Series rematch between the Royals and the Mets.

On April 4, the national championship game will be complemented by 12 more Opening Day games, including one right here in Baltimore, as the hometown Orioles host the Minnesota Twins at Camden Yards.

The Birds will look to rebound from a disappointing 2015 campaign, and after a very strong offseason, they definitely appear to be headed in the right direction.

After years of struggles, the Orioles have finally returned to relevance in the last four years. From 1998 to 2011, Baltimore finished with a losing record every season and was unable to find any sort of consistency in the wins column.

In July of 2010, having hired and fired six managers since 1998, the O's brought on Buck Showalter, a manager who had previously found success with the Yankees, Diamondbacks and Rangers. Showalter led the O's to a strong finish in 2010, but the team could not

continue this success the following year, finishing just 69-93. It was clear that they were still lacking the personnel to be contenders.

Following the 2011 season, the hiring of Dan Duquette as General Manager—who is largely responsible for putting together the Red Sox team that won the 2004 World Series—solved that problem.

In 2012, the Orioles took the league by surprise, finishing an impressive 93-69 and knocking off the back-to-back American League (AL) Champion Texas Rangers in the first-ever Wild Card Game before falling in the final game of a best-of-five series against the Yankees. In 2013, the O's played well, and with Showalter's emphasis on defense they broke the single season record by committing just 54 errors. However, they failed to reach the playoffs at 85-77, though another winning season had solidified them as a team that could contend.

And they were contenders. Baltimore ran away with the always-competitive AL East in 2014, finishing 96-66 and winning their first division title since 1997 by a whopping twelve games. After sweeping the Tigers in the Division Series, the O's themselves were swept by the Royals in the ALCS, but they had left their mark, once again proving their ability to contend and win in the postseason.

The Birds were unable to follow up this success in 2015, finishing a pedestrian 81-81. With many key players heading into free agency and the other

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Track impresses at D-I Maryland Invitational

By EMILIE HOFFER
For The News-Letter

In a recent preseason poll, both the Hopkins men's and women's track teams were picked to win the Centennial Conference Championship in the upcoming outdoor track season. Both teams will be challenged by the Haverford College Fords, who are predicted to be runner-up in both the men's and women's competitions. The Hopkins men and women competed in the Maryland Invitational, hosted by the University of Maryland this past Saturday, and proved it will be a formidable challenge for any Centennial team to take them down this year.

The Lady Jays saw a number of exceptional individual performances this past weekend. In the 1500 meter, sophomore Caroline Smith and junior Shannon Martello both ran personal bests. Smith,

who recently received All-American honors as a member of the distance medley relay during the indoor season, placed third with a finishing time of 4:42. She was separated from the first place finisher by only a second.

Freshman Felicia Koerner also had an impressive finish this weekend in the 3000 meter. With a 30-second personal best in the event, Koerner crossed the line in 9:57 to place second.

"The team was mostly focused on getting our feet wet," Koerner said about the team's first outdoor meet. "We were more concerned with our individual performances and, on the whole, saw some new PRs and performances indicative of a great season."

Koerner was followed closely by her two teammates. Junior Tess Meehan crossed the line in third and senior Jordan Delane in fourth, placing

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Men's Lacrosse falls to UVA Cavaliers 13-12



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For the third straight year, the Hopkins versus UVA men game stretched out into overtime. A high-scoring game from both ends, the event saw several Jays such as sophomore Shack Stanwick and freshman Patrick Foley step up and perform well against the Cavaliers in high-pressure circumstances.

Athlete of the Week: Megumi Chen

Sophomore Megumi Chen was named the Centennial Conference Player of the Week. Chen finished 2-1 at No. 2 singles and 3-0 at No. 2 doubles in Fredericksburg, Va., before adding another victory on Saturday.
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Discussing the Duke Larosse Debate

Ten years after the Duke Lacrosse case, the repercussions and tensions are still alive in the minds of the athletic community. This is apparent in ESPN's film *Fantastic Lies*, part of their 30 for 30 series.
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Virginia Men's Lacrosse defeats Hopkins in OT

By GAB RUSSO
For The News-Letter

This past weekend, Hopkins took on the University of Virginia Cavaliers in their seventh game of the season. For the third consecutive year, the Hopkins-Virginia matchup went into overtime, and for the third consecutive year, Hopkins walked away without a win. Coming off an overtime win against Syracuse, Hopkins went into the overtime period with confidence, knowing they had the ability to dominate, but fell short.

For the majority of the first period, Hopkins held a 4-0 lead with two goals from junior Wilkins Dismuke, and a goal each from seniors Ryan Brown and Holden Cattoni. With about two minutes left in the first period, Virginia got on the board with a goal from senior James Pannell.

In the second period, Virginia managed to take the lead, scoring five goals before Hopkins answered back with a goal from junior John Crawley with three minutes left before halftime, allowing the Blue Jays to end the half with a

6-5 lead over Virginia.

In the third period, Virginia and Hopkins kept the scoring going, and neither team lead more than two goals for the rest of the game. Sophomore Shack Stanwick scored two goals for Hopkins; Shortly after, senior teammate Craig Madarasz scored one to tie the score. Blue Jay freshman Patrick Foley managed to add in another goal just before the period ended to take an 8-9 lead over Virginia.

In the final period of play, Virginia opened up the scoring early on with a goal from sophomore Matt Emery. The rest of the period was back to back scoring for both teams. Hopkins freshmen Drew Supinski answered Virginia's first goal and Cattoni and junior Cody Radziewicz also scored bringing the Hopkins lead to 12-11 with about two and a half minutes left in regulation time. In the last 20 seconds of the game, Virginia's senior Greg Colohan scored a goal that tied up the score to 12-12, forcing the game into overtime.

In overtime, it was only 19 seconds before

Virginia's sophomore Mike D'Amario scored the game-winning goal, and for the third year in a row Virginia walked away with an overtime win against the Blue Jays.

"Anytime you play in overtime there is a lot of pressure since [the] next goal wins," junior Joe Car-

lini said. "This weekend we felt pretty confident going into overtime having been in overtime games before this season and just winning a game in overtime last weekend against Syracuse. Despite the outcome it is a great learning experience for us as we move into Big-Ten games."

Baseball falters on the road after 9-1 streak

By MATT MIYAMOTO
For The News-Letter

After winning nine of their last 10 games, the Hopkins Blue Jay baseball team was brought back to reality with a 13-0 collapse against the No. 15 Rutgers University-Camden Scarlet Raptors. The Blue Jays struggled to string hits together, and their relievers were ineffective.

Senior starting pitcher Trevor Williams (3-2), picked up his second loss of the year, but not due to a lack of effort, as he gave up only two earned runs in his six innings of work. This start would normally be more than enough of a cushion for the Jays to manufacture a win, but the Jays' bats were overwhelmed, and the relief pitching was unreliable, which led the game to become a blowout following the eighth inning.

The Scarlet Raptors' pitcher, senior Billy Jackson, dominated the Hopkins hitters, throwing eight innings, striking out nine and giving up only two hits. The Jays have

been susceptible to strikeouts this season, averaging over seven per game.

The usually reliable Hopkins bullpen and defense also faltered against Rutgers-Camden, committing three errors and giving up 10 runs in the seventh and eighth innings. While likely indicative of a team losing focus early in the season, the Jays' tendency to surrender the big inning against teams will, if not addressed, become increasingly problematic as the season progresses. It is very difficult to win meaningful games consistently when a team has a trend of squandering quality outings by starting pitchers late in the game.

The Jays will look to junior shortstop Conor Reynolds to find the consistency that is eluding them. Reynolds is a model of consistency, having started at shortstop for the past 76 games, dating back to his freshman season. Shortstop, a position that typically requires a veteran's presence, was taken over by Reynolds
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Sophomore Hunter Moreland exhibits his skills against UVA.